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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

**Library Economy and Bibliography**

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*Contents :*

	PAGE		PAGE
EDITORIAL. . . . .	163	LIBRARY SCHOOL VISIT TO BOSTON.— <i>Miss Mary S. Cutler.</i> . . . .	176
Hull on Subject Catalogues.		GEORGE PERKINS MARSH.— <i>Harry L. Koopman.</i> . . . .	178
Tilden Library.		FREDERIC VINTON. . . . .	179
Tariff on Books by Mail.		TARIFF ON BOOKS BY MAIL.— <i>C. B. Curtis.</i> . . . .	180
Bulletin of the Boston Public Library.		LIBRARY ADVERTISING. . . . .	181
Milwaukee Public Library Catalog.		AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. . . . .	182
Pepper's Bequest to Philadelphia.		LIBRARY ECONOMY AND HISTORY. . . . .	182
COMMUNICATION. . . . .	165	LIBRARIANS. . . . .	187
The Dictionary Catalog.		GIFTS AND BEQUESTS. . . . .	187
LIBRARY JOURNAL Symposia.		CATALOGING AND CLASSIFICATION. . . . .	188
Worcester F. L. Catalog.		BIBLIOGRAPHY. . . . .	189
New Haven Public Library.		ANONYMS AND PSEUDONYMS. . . . .	189
OLD PROVERBS ADAPTED FOR LIBRARY USE . . . . .	166		
SUBJECT CATALOGUES IN COLLEGE LIBRARIES.— <i>C. H. Hull.</i> . . . .	167		
THE FUTURE OF CATALOGUING.— <i>G. Watson Cole.</i> . . . .	172		

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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

VOL. 15.

JUNE, 1890.

No. 6.

C: A. CUTTER, PAUL L. FORD, *Editors.*

THE devil's-advocate in the Church of Rome, the man who opposed the canonization of some good man, raking up all the doubts that could be cast upon his sainthood, had not necessarily any ill-will to the man he decried or any objection to his joining the heavenly body of intercessors, but he wanted the off side to have a fair statement. Mr. Hull, in opposing the subject catalog, is such a devil's-advocate. He will not be displeased if his argument fails to convict.

Mr. Hull has only stated part of the case. There are using the college library a certain number of persons who cannot depend on their professor because they are not studying under a professor or are engaged in inquiry outside of their college course, or in inquiry under one professor which carries them into the province of another professor. Mr. Hull does not say that these people or even the professor-helped students can get *no* assistance from a subject catalog. What he does say amounts to this: that the students, not knowing how to use the subject catalog, frequently get misled. Would not the natural remedy be to teach the student how to use his subject catalog? The professor also, he says, gets no good from the subject catalog, because in his own department he does not need it, and in other departments it does not lead him to the best books, which are the only ones that he wants. Here, one would think, the natural remedy would be to get each professor to state which are the best books in his department and note his judgment on the cards, so that whenever a professor should go beyond his own department he would have the benefit of his colleague's knowledge and the students would profit by the whole. This is not an easy thing to do; but to a librarian who has any faculty of exciting enthusiasm and enlisting coöperation, it is far from impossible. No librarian would have much difficulty in getting his associates in the faculty to do something in this line, and by persistent questioning he could fill up gaps.

INSTEAD of these remedies Mr. Hull proposes that we should have no subject catalog at all, but rely on bibliographies. To our thinking the remedy is much worse than the disease. Not that the expense frightens us, for a library ought to have many bibliographies as a supplement to its

catalog. But, in the first place, there are not now and will not be for years any bibliographies of value on a large number of subjects. Secondly, those that there are do not include all the books on their subjects which are in any library that would use them. Thirdly, they do not and cannot include the latest and best books, even by publishing frequent supplements, and if they do publish supplements they become unbearably tedious to use. Fourthly, the majority of books in them are not in the library, so that the reader will waste a vast deal of time in making note of and asking for books which he cannot get. "The man in a hurry" certainly is not likely to bless bibliographies. Their superior completeness, of which Mr. Hull makes so much account, is, for purposes of rapid inquiry, a great defect. The more books they include that are not in the library, the worse for their user. In fact, we fancy the time lost by readers in this way will fully equal the time gained by the library staff by not making a subject catalog. To which we may add that it is much harder to teach people to use bibliographies in conjunction with an author catalog than it is to teach them to use a subject catalog.

To avoid misapprehension let us say that for exhaustive study we believe bibliographies are indispensable. He who wants to know *all* that there is in the library on his subject must use them; for no subject catalog can refer to all the articles in magazines and papers in society transactions which many bibliographies include. But the large part of the users of any library who do not want to make exhaustive investigations ought not to be compelled to use this effective but extremely clumsy tool. This is one of the cases where one does want a little door for the chicken as well as a big door for the hen, because the chicken is not strong enough to push open the larger door. For the ordinary student the card catalog has four advantages: it (firstly) covers all subjects so far as they are treated of in the library, (secondly) contains all the books in the library, even (thirdly) those received within a few days, and (fourthly) contains no other books, or if by a wise extension it mentions important works which are in neighboring libraries it states where they are to be found, and occasions no loss of time.

One point more. The student in all fields and the professor when wandering beyond his own

field want to use only the best books. How many bibliographies say which is the best book? A few do. The majority are lists of titles as bare of any information of that sort as any subject catalog.

THE position and action of the Tilden Library trustees has been the subject of much newspaper paragraphing of late, but as it lacked authentication, the JOURNAL has taken no notice of it. Much has been said of an attempt to compromise the contest between the heirs and the trustees, by which each should have about \$4,000,000, but this was at once positively denied by one of the trustees, and their action has proved the truth of the denial. When the General Term reversed the decision of the Special Term and ordered a new trial, it was expected that the decision would be carried to the Court of Appeals. The trustees, however, have preferred to accept the decision of the General Term and take the new trial in preference to carrying it to the upper court. From this it is probable that they foresaw that the question at issue in the former trial would probably be decided against them, and so made the new trial on different points. In this they have lost their case, and it seems to be the general impression of the bar that they will do the same in the appeal they will unquestionably take; but the Court of Appeals will try to find some reason for giving New York City the library, and there is no question as to Mr. Tilden's intentions, which is another strong point for the trustees. As the estate is increasing very rapidly it may be possible, pending the final decision, for the trustees to compromise the case by giving almost as much to the heirs as they would have obtained had Mr. Tilden died intestate, and still retaining for the use of the proposed library a fund as large as that possessed by any library in this country.

ELSEWHERE we print in this issue of the JOURNAL a letter of Mr. Charles B. Curtis on the tariff on books by mail. All librarians have been made to realize the inconveniences and loss of time involved by our tax on foreign books, but seldom has it been shown what the results of this tax are from the revenue standpoint. Mr. Curtis shows that this nuisance is continued for the sake of an average duty of 10 cents on each volume. The total sum collected amounts to \$23,294.29, and to collect this comparatively small sum costs the government not less than \$60,000, or 46 cents for every 18 cents collected. For this expenditure of over \$36,000 the government gives more or less trouble to 127,000 individuals, to say nothing of

the loss in time in the delivery of every book. Perhaps the most extraordinary feature of it all is the fact that, as with the question of International Copyright, the public and the press almost universally oppose our present system. The present tariff bill does away, it is true, with the tax on books in foreign languages, but this is only a partial remedy and will not affect at all the delay in the delivery.

WITH the beginning of Volume 9 of the Bulletin of the Boston Public Library we notice some noteworthy changes. The Bulletin is now entirely under the editorial supervision of Mr. Lindsay Swift, and under its new management has become a quarterly, so that it may go as second-class matter through the mail, with subscription price of \$1 a year. In matter, too, the Bulletin shows a marked change. The additions are now classed by general subject, to which is added an author and more detailed subject index. In addition to this the last issue has an admirable list of books on the European origin of the Aryans, Mr. Whitney's Catalogue of Bibliographies, already noticed in our last issue, and a defence by Judge Chamberlain of the library's purchases at the Barlow sale, from the strictures of the JOURNAL and others.

THE Milwaukee Public Library has devised a new method of making its catalog useful. Every librarian knows that tho the public are in a great hurry to have a printed catalog, yet when at great expense of time, trouble, and money the catalog is laid before them, very few will buy. The Milwaukee catalog has cost \$3.30 a volume unbound. The trustees offer it at \$2 a volume bound in cloth, and moreover will lend it for home use on a deposit of \$3, for which the librarian will give his receipt, and of this amount \$2 will be refunded if the book is returned in good order at any time within three years after the date of the receipt. It will be indeed strange if no one will pay for three years' use of an admirable catalog of a good collection of books what so many people do not hesitate to pay for a single dinner or the admission to a variety show.

By the will of the late George S. Pepper, the sum of \$150,000 is left to the city of Philadelphia for the benefit of "such free library as may be established in the city of Philadelphia, east of the River Schuylkill and south of Market Street." This clause has naturally produced some rivalry among the various libraries of that city. The City Institute Free Library, the Apprentices'

Library, and the Mercantile Library have all applied to be made the favored institution. The stockholders of the latter, it is true, have voted against the proposition to turn over the control of their library to others, but the will is so loosely drawn that it is by no means certain that this will exclude them from "the running," and is probable that the matter will have to be carried into the court for decision. It is certainly a great misfortune that would-be benefactors will not take the small necessary pains in wording their bequests that shall secure their being carried out without the interposition and delay of the courts.

### Communications.

#### THE DICTIONARY CATALOG.

##### A SHORT CORRESPONDENCE.

*Extracts from C: A. C.'s note, L. J., 15:144.* People (4) seek books in a given KIND OF LITERATURE (a novel, a play, a French book) or look over and choose from what the library has in those classes.

\* \* \* \* \*

To help the *fourth* class we insert in the list under the names of those classes of literature that are likely to be asked for lists of the books belonging to them in the library arranged in the order either (a) of the authors or (b) of the titles: or more frequently we make separate catalogs of these classes, that having proved to be the most convenient method.

Catalogs for the fourth class are hardly needed in those libraries in which the books are classified on the shelves and the public have access to them. But if there is no separate list of fiction under the authors and the books are arranged on the shelves by authors it is convenient to have a separate list of titles; and if the books are arranged by titles then it is well to have an author-list. Separate lists of drama and poetry are not so much needed, because those classes are not so much used.

*Letter to C: A. C.* In the last paragraph you are advocating the old heresy of "close classification"—implying that a *shelf* classification can be a substitute for a *catalogue*. If your Form classes are arranged by authors how will the *shelves* tell a reader that most (and possibly all) of an author's plays (or poems) will be found in some general collection like the "British theatre," "Modern standard drama," or the like? or, worse still, buried in some collection of his works shelved by you *elsewhere*?

*Reply.* I never maintained that shelf classification can be a complete substitute for a catalog, tho' I know from experience that it is an exceedingly useful supplement to a catalog and, so far as it goes, is often much superior to a catalog. In the present case you have not expressed your point well. If a reader wants "most and possibly all of an author's plays (or poems) which are in some general collection of plays or in the author's Works" he has only to go to that author's name in the author catalog; he does not need a special list of plays (or poems). But you might have said with justice that if he wants to find all the plays that we have and select among them, the classing on the shelves cannot enable him to do so. Nothing but the special list will serve his purpose. It is not a very common want, but it should be provided for. I conceded too much (for I was conceding to those who wish to do as little cataloging as possible; I was not myself opposing the making of catalogs). Instead of saying "hardly needed," I ought to have said "less needed."

*Letter to C: A. C.* When you say drama and poetry "are not so much used" as a reason for not making separate lists of them you may be right so far as your own library is concerned, but I imagine you are very wrong if you mean to be *general*. With Browning and Shakespeare Clubs, and the Ibsen cult in full blast, Boston does not need a class list of Drama and Poetry?!

*Reply.* I do not see why the readers of Browning, Ibsen, and Shakespeare need a list of the plays and poems in the library. They will find all the works of their idols under those names in the author catalog.

C: A. CUTLER.

#### THE LIBRARY JOURNAL SYMPOSIA.

I HAVE deemed the "symposium" articles given in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, concerning *book-buying* and *duplicating*, etc., as of the most interesting and valuable nature possible, and to my notion such as make the LIBRARY JOURNAL worth more than any number of bibliographies or "Proceedings."

H. S. CARR.

#### WORCESTER FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY CATALOGUE.

APRIL 26, 1890.

I HAVE just been sending out to other libraries a number of copies of our new supplement to the catalogue of books, which readily circulates.

It has surprised me to find that several librarians have taken the trouble, when acknowledging the gift, to write letters stating their satisfaction in getting a catalogue that is practical, one that



the most ignorant person can use, one that will stay open when it is opened.

I fear that in many communities libraries are suffering because residents are called upon to use complicated catalogues and that greater simplicity is needed in their construction.

There are systems of knowledge-division which are of the greatest use in the arrangement of books on the shelves, but which, in my opinion, should not be followed in a printed catalogue designed for all kinds of persons.

One of my attendants tells me that she visited a library in one of the Middle States and asked whether or not it had a certain book. The librarian took up the catalogue of this library before doing anything else, to get certain particulars about the book, and then referred to her own catalogue to find out whether the library she cared for had the book. It seems that the librarian of that library kept our catalogue by her side constantly.

Of course, very much depends, in any system, upon the intelligence shown in using it, but I am firmly convinced that the dictionary system is preferable for a library which has among its users a large number of persons who have little experience in using catalogues and indexes.

It seems to me, too, that it is usually found most convenient in libraries generally, and that it is much the safest to adopt unless skill and great care are exercised in preparing subject and author indexes.

SAMUEL S. GREEN.

#### NEW HAVEN PUBLIC LIBRARY.

AN article in the N. Y. Sunday Herald for May 18, on "New Haven's Library" contains some errors. In the first place it may be said that the site has been for years looked upon as the most desirable in the city for a public library. But the money to purchase it was not voted by the city until after Mr. Feen, unexpectedly to all, purchased the property.

In the second place, while a visit of the librarian to Wilkesbarre (not the visit of the Executive Committee) showed how convenient a library could be made from a church building, still the plans are different from those of the Wilkesbarre library — partly owing to the different needs and partly owing to the differences in the buildings, but surely not because it was desired to preserve the appearance of the church. It might be said with some truth that the imposing architectural effect of the room influenced the directors in deciding not to put in a floor making two stories; but the decisive considerations were the convenience of the plans for library purposes. The building being 60 feet wide inside, with buildings

near by, and the windows being less than 3 ft. wide in 15 ft. bays, it would have required much enlargement of the windows to provide sufficient light. It was thought better to gain the light from the roof by skylights, and lights in the ceilings beneath the skylights. The roof is supported by pillars, making aisles 15 ft. wide and a nave 30 ft. wide. They therefore determined the position of glazed partitions dividing the church into a book-room and delivery-room in front and a reading-room on either side, as the article describes. The galleries of the church were taken down and new galleries designed, ultimately for books and at the same time serving as ceilings for the reading-rooms. The arrangement of these rooms is such that each reading-room may be looked after from the little rooms either side of the delivery-room, and still all necessary supervision may be exercised from the delivery desk. Another point sought was to place the catalogue near the reference-room and the card catalogue and also the librarian near everybody — general public and assistants. Great economy in assistants was thus provided for.

It may be added that as a lot for building the land is worth \$60,000 probably. The property was purchased from the proceeds of a sale of \$100,000 4% bonds running 20 to 30 years and which brought \$110,888.11. Perhaps \$10,000 will be left after the alterations and furnishings are paid for, and it has been suggested that permission will be asked to expend this for books.

W. K. STETSON, Librarian.

#### OLD PROVERBS ADAPTED FOR LIBRARY USE.

##### BY QUID NUNC.

ONE person can lead a subscriber to the card catalogue; but forty cannot make him use it.

THE early subscriber (sometimes) gets the new book.

THE book agent is the thief of time.

THERE is many a slip 'twixt the card and the printed catalogues.

MANY men of many minds,  
Many books of many kinds.

ALL's not literature that litters.

THE bookworm will turn if trod upon.

THE Catalogue was not built in a day.

SHORT accounts make long subscribers.

TIME and the Annual Report wait for no man.

SPEECH is silver, but silence, in the reading-room, is golden.

MOTTO for reading-room: Easy come, easy go.

FOR the bookbinder: Fast bind, fast find.

## SUBJECT CATALOGUES IN COLLEGE LIBRARIES.

BY CHARLES HENRY HULL, *Assistant Librarian, Cornell University.*

IN general, college libraries are used by readers of two and but two classes: by the professor, who, as a rule, is a specialist, and the student, who, as a rule, is not. Consequently a discussion of the question "Should a large college library maintain a general subject catalogue?" need concern itself with these two only—the student first and afterwards the professor.

To the student it is doubtful whether the subject catalogue does as much good as it does harm. The average student uses it without discrimination. He wants a treatise on electricity; the catalogue offers him the choice of a hundred titles, and he copies one of them absolutely at random. The chances are as great that he gets a poor book as a good one. The older and larger the library, the greater his risk, in this lottery, of drawing an obsolete or misleading work. If the library placed a competent expert on guard over its catalogue to advise students in their choice of books, this danger would be largely removed. In like manner if each professor directed the reading of students in his department, the danger would then be removed—and so would the need for a subject catalogue, so far, at least, as the students are concerned. As a matter of fact no college library employs such an expert, and some professors afford their students no guidance in reading whatever. A professor assigns the subject for an essay, let us say, and tells his students to "go over to the library and work it up." Half a hundred students immediately appear, all clamoring for books on the same subject. Before the librarian—more often an underpaid assistant—has given out half-a-dozen books that may be useful, as many more that will do no especial harm, secreted several that would be positively misleading, and sent the rest of the boys, as a last resort, to Poole's Index, another class, equally neglected by their proper instructor, are calling for help on another topic. To turn them over to the subject catalogue is useless or worse. The catalogue affords them no assistance in the choice of books, and consequently they have long ago learned to regard it, and justly, as a delusion and a snare. In reality the college librarian should not be expected to guide students in their choice of books; that is the duty of their teachers. But, as the teachers frequently fail to do it, the librarian must not fail. Such is the problem presented by the student.

The professor is a specialist. What does the specialist require of the subject catalogue? He

requires, in the first place, to get at all the library's resources on the subject he is investigating, and, in the second place, to know whether the literature of his topic is sufficiently at his command in the library or whether he must see books not now at hand before he can collect the data necessary for a right conclusion. In respect of both these demands the library's subject catalogue fails, and it fails more completely in the second and more important respect. The deficiencies of the subject catalogue, then, are principally these: It fails to present all the library's resources on a given topic; it fails to inform the reader of the existence of books, however important, that are not in the library. The subject catalogue, in short, is sure to be incomplete and likely to be misleading. Within his own bounds the specialist himself is already superior to it. He has dug valuable knowledge from a thousand crannies to which no subject catalogue could direct him. He is himself a walking catalogue of the subject, a catalogue so elaborate that nothing short of an approximately complete bibliography will be of any use to him.

But the specialist's attention is not confined to his narrow field. The object of all special research is generalization, and just as soon as the specialist begins to generalize he must lay many sciences under contribution. He must make frequent excursions into territory bordering on his own or yet more remote. He does not want a big bibliography of each of these outlying provinces; that would swamp him as the big subject catalogue does the student. He wants to find, quickly and surely, the best book or two on the topic. The point at issue is perhaps a minor one; at any rate it lies outside his particular field. He is not required to determine it by his own researches; his duty is discharged when he can cite good authority for the position that he takes with reference to it. In an alien department he must depend on a summary statement of results reached by specialists working there, just as others will be obliged to depend on a summary statement of results reached by his researches in his own department. Such is the problem presented by the professor.

A perfect solution of these problems is no more to be found than any other royal road to learning. Readers, with all the help that the best library can give them, must still depend, in a great measure, on their own ingenuity and perseverance. However, there may still be a choice,

even if it be only a choice of evils, between various partial solutions of the problems.

The professor while working within his specialty demands a sort of assistance very different from the sort he demands while working in some other department. And it should be noticed that his demand when working outside his specialty is very similar to the sole\* demand of the student. Neither the student nor, in this case, the professor wants a wilderness of books. Each wants (1) to get a book of recognized merit, and (2) to get it at once. The ideal library for the purpose would be a carefully selected collection of, say, ten thousand volumes, a good share of them replaced by fresher literature every few years. Such a collection the college librarian is favorably situated to select. By the advice of the competent men who surround him he can guard to a considerable extent against the admission into it of foolish or vicious books. So much for the help which the library may afford towards getting a book of recognized merit. The book may be found quickly by means of a printed finding-list. The general subject catalogue will not answer the purpose. To a man in a hurry the uselessness of a subject catalogue increases much faster than its size. But a title-a-liner finding-list, while manifestly impossible to construct or use if it embraced the whole of an old library, is precisely the tool best suited to handling a small collection, mostly of new books. Such a list, printed at no great cost, in one of two columns and on one side of the paper, can be kept up by manuscript additions for some time. When it becomes necessary to revise the reference collection and send superannuated books from the open shelves to the closed alcoves or stack, the list should be reprinted.

The problem presented by the professor working within the bounds of his specialty is more complicated. The subject catalogue, for reasons already mentioned, is of no use to him. Both (A) as a presentation of the total literature of any topic, and (B) as a presentation of the library's resources upon the topic, he finds a good collection of bibliographies far superior to the catalogue. Bibliographies are not perfect. Judged by an ideal standard, the most complete collection of them will be found sadly deficient. But the best subject catalogues, judged by the same standard, will be found still more deficient in both respects.

(A) The subject catalogue will, in almost every

\*I do not ignore the growing class of student-specialists whom "seminars" and laboratories have called into existence. But the demands of such student-specialists are actually presented, for the most part, to and through the professor.

case, fall short of the bibliographies as a presentation of the total literature of the topic. In case a library is particularly rich in the general literature of any topic, it will naturally be rich in the bibliography of the topic as well. When a library becomes so rich in the literature of a topic that its subject catalogue would surpass the bibliographies of that topic already in print, it will be the pride of such a library to print a special catalogue of its collection, *i.e.*, to provide a bibliography of the topic. In ninety-nine out of a hundred cases, however, two or three of the best bibliographies will present the total literature of a topic better than the subject catalogue can present it.

(B) In almost as large a proportion of cases bibliographies will present the resources of the library itself more completely than the subject catalogue can present them. Analysis in a subject catalogue is expensive and commonly stops short of periodicals, transactions, proceedings, etc., although these, especially in science, contain a large and constantly increasing proportion of the most important materials. The growing tendency of all scholarly work is towards prompt\* publication in technical series of one sort or another. Such serials commonly escape the analysis of the subject catalogue — perhaps it would be more accurate to say that the catalogue escapes analyzing them. Subject bibliographies, on the contrary, include a great range of such analysis. Not only does the subject bibliographer better appreciate the value of the analysis, but he and he alone can afford to do once for all the comparatively small amount falling within his field, whereas subject cataloguers cannot afford to reduplicate in many places the laborious analysis required for all topics. It is evident, therefore, that subject bibliographies will render available many resources of the library to which the subject catalogue is no guide. A professor of the German language and literature, for instance, who uses von Bahder's *Die deutsche Philologie im Grundriss*, 1883, Goedeke's *Grundriss zur Geschichte der deutschen Dichtung*, 1884-89, Koberstein's *Grundriss der Geschichte der deutschen Nationalliteratur*, 1872-74, and the English translation of Scherer's *History of German literature*, 1886, with bibliographical appendix, has a more complete key to his topic than could be furnished him by any subject catalogue. Pritzel's *Thesaurus literaturae botanicae*, 1872-77, and Jackson's *Guide to the literature of botany*, 1881, constitute

\* Librarians consulted about the proposed forms of publication for the new Geological Society of America will remember the stress laid on the necessity for prompt publication.



an excellent working catalogue, at least so far as concerns separately published books with which alone the cataloguer in this department commonly deals. Pritzel also includes many monographs in periodicals, and Just's *Botanischer Jahresbericht*, since 1874, is very full in its citations of periodicals. Solberg's *Bibliography of literary property*, appended to Bowker's *Copyright*, 1886, practically exhausts the subject. The *Bibliography of Scandinavia*, by the same compiler, appended to Horn's *Literature of the Scandinavian North*, 1884, is more complete in its field than any American subject catalogue. The *Index catalogue of the library of the Surgeon-General's office*, 1880-89, and the *Index medicus*, annual since 1879, completely cover medical literature, and contain innumerable references on allied sciences. Winsor's *Reader's handbook of the American Revolution*, 1880, is of more use to the student of that period than all the subject catalogues in print combined. Chevalier's *Répertoire des sources historiques du Moyen-Age*, bio-bibliographie, 1877-88, unlocks the biographical storehouses of a thousand years of the world's history many-fold more completely than the best subject catalogue. The three volumes of the *Table des matières* to Lorenz's *Catalogue de la librairie française* arrange all French books published from 1840 to 1885 under their appropriate subjects as carefully as a cataloguer would arrange the few his library possesses. Soule's *Lawyer's reference manual*, 1883, is one of the best catalogues of law-books in existence. Engel's *Zusammenstellung der Faust-Schriften*, 1884, omits scarcely anything. Pilling's *bibliographies of American aboriginal languages*, 1887-89, leave little to be desired as to comprehensiveness or accuracy. Griffin's *American local history*, 1889, is almost invaluable. Coupled with Winsor's *Narrative and critical history of America*, 1886-89, Ford's *Check list of bibliographies of American books and subjects*, 1889, and the coming index volume of Sabin, it will guide the reader in a large library to almost everything that has been published on the history of the United States, certainly to much more material than the largest single library contains. But this list must be brought to an end. A whole volume of the *JOURNAL* would not contain the titles of all the bibliographies that are preferable in their field to any subject catalogue.

The relative superiority of a good collection of bibliographies to a subject catalogue, as a presentation both of the literature of a topic and of the library's resources, being established, we may next consider the objections brought against the

use of subject bibliographies in the room of the subject catalogue. These objections are mainly three: (1) Bibliographies are inadequate, leaving some departments imperfectly covered and others untouched. (2) They are difficult to use. (3) They are expensive.

(1) Bibliographies are inadequate; they fail to cover many of the topics required, some topics they fail to touch. It is true that bibliographies at times fall short; the above allusion to an index of Sabin, not yet published, was made to emphasize this fact. The relative frequency and the relative extent of their shortcomings compared with subject catalogues remain, however, proper subjects of our investigation. Bibliographies may fail in either of at least four ways: (A) The library may have no bibliography of the required topic, or (B) the bibliographies it has may fail of accuracy or (C) of completeness or (D) they may be behind the times.

(A) It is, of course, possible that a library may be destitute of bibliographical information on any topic, just as it is possible that the library may have no information on the topic whatever. If the topic be within the library's range, either deficiency will naturally be supplied as soon as possible after its discovery. In a large library, however, absolute deficiency of either sort is not likely to occur very often, and the first (bibliographical) deficiency is rather less likely to occur than the second. It seems probable, therefore, that the reader who depends on an imperfect subject catalogue will fail to discover material which really is in the library quite as often as, in a library where the money saved from a subject catalogue is expended in additional bibliographies, he will fail for want of bibliographical helps.

(B) The second particular in which bibliographies may fail is in accuracy. But in this respect the subject catalogue is even more liable to imperfections. Bibliographies, each, as a rule, the work of a specialist, contain fewer errors of ignorance than does the work of the average subject cataloguer who undertakes all departments and masters none.

(C) The third source of failure, the incompleteness of bibliographies, has been discussed at length (p. 168) and it has been shown that, on the average, subject catalogues are even more incomplete.

(D) The fourth way in which bibliographies may fail is by being behind the times. This objection applies also to printed subject catalogues, and as a rule with much greater force. Few printed catalogues of college libraries are kept up by frequent supplements, while the bibliog-

raphy of most topics is kept up by annual lists, e.g., Geological record, Zoölogical record, Zoologischer Jahresbericht (of which an elaborate index, 1878-87, has just just appeared, forming with Carus's and Taschenberg's *Bibliotheca zoologica*, a key to a great topic), *Bibliotheca philologica*, Mühlbrecht's *Bibliographie der Staats- und Rechtswissenschaften*, the bibliographies in Haupt's and Gröber's *Zeitschriften*, etc., etc. (May I here open a little parenthesis in which to ask if it be only a coincidence that books of the most careful scholarship come from Germany, whence come also the largest number of subject bibliographies?)

To recapitulate the answers made to objections A, B, C, and D, and throw them, together with other considerations, into the form of a general answer to the first general objection, viz., that "bibliographies are inadequate, leaving some subjects unprovided for and others untouched," I have tried to show that subject bibliographies, with all their imperfections, are of greater potential usefulness than subject catalogues. As they stand they approach nearer to perfection. And not only do they approach nearer to perfection at present, but as time progresses their approximation to an ideal standard will become closer and closer. The forementioned allusion to an index of Sabin not yet published was made to emphasize this fact also. The demand for better bibliographies and for more of them will create its own supply, sometimes through the co-operation of a society, as in the case of Chevalier's *Répertoire* (of which, by the way, and in further illustration of the present argument, two other parts, dealing with geography and bibliography, are promised), sometimes through a library, as Griffin's *American local history* or the Harvard contributions, sometimes through the enthusiasm of a specialist, as Wülcker's *Grundriss zur Geschichte der angelsächsischen Litteratur*, 1885, or Monod's *Bibliographie de l'histoire de France*, 1888. The more general purchase and consequent greater support of such books will encourage similar undertakings in other fields, till eventually all gaps will be filled. "Eventually" means, no doubt, after a good many years. But the life of a library is not limited by five years, or fifteen. Its administrators hold a trust for coming as well as for present readers, and should not fritter the trust away in makeshifts. It is also a grave question how far the present administrator of a library is justified, for his own temporary convenience, in saddling his successor with an expensive catalogue sure to be superseded in a few decades if not in a few years. To sum up in

brief: The incompleteness of bibliographies is not so great as the incompleteness of subject catalogues, and the difference in favor of the bibliographies is likely to increase rather than to diminish.

(2) The preceding answer to the first general objection attempts to prove that bibliographies are *potentially* superior to a subject catalogue, that it is possible by their use to serve all the required purposes which the subject catalogue can serve, to serve them better than the subject catalogue can, and in addition to serve other and important purposes which the subject catalogue cannot serve. But are bibliographies as convenient? Can they be used? Will they be used?

If the specialist working in a college library does not use appropriate bibliographies when they are provided, it must be because: (A) he does not know them, or (B) their lack of uniformity confuses him, or (C) their multiplicity wearies him.

(A) The bibliographies are unknown to the reader. The professor who is not a thorough student of his specialty will make shift, between the printed finding-list and the shelves, to do all the studying he would do under any circumstances. The professor who is a thorough student knows, of necessity, many bibliographies of his topics, and will be glad to make the acquaintance of others. A growing appreciation of the value of bibliographies must be evident to any one who has looked into the best recent books. No book that really has a subject is nowadays considered complete without a list of the works consulted in its preparation.\* This good tendency towards making bibliographies will continue. With its progress knowledge of bibliographies and skill in their use will be increased.

(B) The lack of uniformity between bibliographies perplexes. Their diversiformity extends, at most, to half a dozen types of arrangement, any of which a man of average intelligence can comprehend as easily as he can a subject catalogue. The attention of the specialist, moreover, is confined to the comparatively few bibliographies of his topic. The method and arrangement of these he knows, and it is utterly immaterial to him that bibliographies of a different topic are arranged on a different plan.

(C) The multiplicity of bibliographies wearies. That is true. Research always involves hard

\* "Such lists of authorities are becoming more and more common in books that have involved careful investigation, and are of great use to students working in the same direction."—*Harvard bibliographical contributions*, no. 20, 1885.

work. No bibliography, subject catalogue, or other device will obviate that necessity. But if a reader's purpose demands the use of many bibliographies of a topic, no subject catalogue can relieve him in the smallest degree. Weary or not, he must go through them all before his examination of the topic is complete. As regards weariness, also, twenty references extracted from a manuscript catalogue with much card-poking and squinting try both body and mind more than a hundred found on a printed page.

To recapitulate the answers to A, B, and C and throw them into a general answer to the second main objection, viz., that "Bibliographies are difficult to use," I have tried to show that bibliographies, without perplexing or unnecessarily wearying the specialist, will do all that the subject catalogue can do for him, and that his knowledge will be found adequate to their use.

(3) The third general objection relates to expense. Subject bibliographies, even if preferable on the score of convenience and highly preferable on the score of completeness, are still prohibited by their cost.

Suppose one-third the total expense of maintaining the catalogue to be chargeable to the subject part. This estimate is moderate. In many libraries titles are given more fully in the subject than in the author catalogue. No part of the cataloguing, moreover, takes so much time as choosing the subjects. To determine the subject of a book requires in most cases a careful examination, and in many cases it requires in addition special knowledge which the cataloguer frequently lacks. In short, the best subject cataloguing must be done by specialists, and the only way to have it done by specialists is to buy the books in which specialists have done it, viz., subject bibliographies. But, to resume, one-third the expense of its catalogue would probably provide any college library with many times the number of bibliographies it now buys. As compared with a subject catalogue, therefore, bibliographies do not seem inordinately expensive. In fact their purchase seems to involve many of the financial advantages of coöperation, and is probably the only way in which we shall ever realize coöperation in those fields which interest comparatively few persons. Mr. Poole and Mr. Fletcher may find coöperators for indexing general periodicals or essays, but scarcely for a special subject; Mr. Bowker finds, I believe, few volunteers for a portrait index even.

We have now arrived at the conclusion that, under specified circumstances, bibliographies are more efficient than a general subject catalogue, that they will be used by those who need them,

and that the libraries in question can afford to provide them. Should a college library, in view of these conclusions, maintain no other subject catalogue than the finding-list of its reference collection? It certainly should keep up, I think, a careful and complete index of its subject bibliographies and reference lists. Especial pains might be taken to make analytical entries of important lists buried in general works. The annual bibliographies, both trade and scientific, the record columns of the *JOURNAL* and *Centralblatt*, and Lane's indexes should be closely scanned. The list of bibliographies thus discovered, instead of being incorporated with the other cards of the subject catalogue as Mr. Foster suggests for popular libraries, would become, in conjunction with the finding-list, the sole and efficient subject catalogue of the library. This subject-list, moreover, would greatly lessen the force of the most serious objection to bibliographies, the objection which rests on the reader's supposed ignorance of them.

It is scarcely possible that any reader will be convinced by this paper—it has not absolutely convinced its writer. Considerations which came to him as queries have been expressed, for the sake of clearness, as arguments. He certainly does not expect any college librarian to think of dropping a subject catalogue in which much labor is already invested. Possibly, however, some one in a college or other library of scholarly intent may be helped by the paper to consider more seriously how important a part of good administration is that involved in the provision and use of bibliographies. There is perhaps danger that the prevailing mania for various excellent economies may divert attention more and more from the knowledge of books and editions, until our libraries, as they become better and better administered, may become less and less worth administering at all.

It remains only to add that the writer has expressed his individual opinions alone. His speculations in no way represent the practice or projects of any library with which he is acquainted.

[Since the above was written Mr. Whitney has published "A catalogue of the bibliographies of special subjects in the Boston Public Library" which enforces the considerations advanced in 1A and 2A. For the present purpose, however, Mr. Whitney's list is chiefly significant by the emphasis it throws on the vital contention of this paper, viz., "the incompleteness of bibliographies is not so great as the incompleteness of subject catalogues, and the difference in favor of bibliographies is likely to increase rather than to diminish."]

## THE FUTURE OF CATALOGUING.\*

BY GEO. WATSON COLE, OF THE NEWBERRY LIBRARY.

THE extraordinary growth of the libraries in this country for the last twenty-five years and the large number of new ones that are constantly being organized, leads us to inquire whether the methods of cataloguing heretofore employed may not, in a measure, be improved. A collection of books, no matter what may be its size, is not of necessity a library. Not until it has been arranged, and systematically and thoroughly catalogued, is it worthy to be dignified by that name. Until that point is reached, it is rather as Mr. Winsor has aptly styled it, "a mob of books." Without a catalogue and proper arrangement, such a collection is a body without the breath of life.

But there is no end to the variety in catalogues. There are catalogues quite as well known for what they do not contain, as those which are well-nigh universally known for their excellence. The last fifteen or twenty years have witnessed a great advance in the character and results of cataloguing. During that time some very excellent work has been done, and better still much of it is now in print. Notable among the catalogues now printed may be named those of the Boston Athenæum, Peabody Institute, Brooklyn Library, Astor Library, Milwaukee Public Library, and the library of the Surgeon-General's Office at Washington, not to mention many others. Several of these are models of their kind, and are largely used in other libraries for the valuable bibliographical aid which they afford.

Other catalogues, or as they are more properly called, *finding lists*, have been printed, which are merely indexes to the contents of their respective libraries. While they answer a good purpose as such, they are, from very necessity, far from being as full and complete as one would desire. The question of expense is, no doubt, largely responsible for their appearance.

When we reflect that this is the fiftieth year since the first code of rules was drawn up by Panizzi and his able coadjutors, and was approved by the trustees of the British Museum, July 13, 1839, we have reason to question whether the intervening half century has witnessed the general progress in cataloguing which we have a right to expect. Of those rules, Mr. Fagan, in his "Life of Sir Antonio Panizzi" (2d ed., 1880, v. 1, p.

169), says: "They were acknowledged at the time and still continue to be the most complete ever compiled, although attempts have, at various periods, been made to improve upon them; nor has the approbation bestowed upon them been merely of a local character; it has extended throughout Europe and America," and again (p. 170), "America has been mentioned with special reason. The first general conference of librarians was held at New York, September 15, 16, and 17, 1853. . . . At this meeting the learned professor (Jewett) made a statement to the effect that the scholars of all nations demanded of Great Britain that the catalogue of the library of the British Museum should be thoroughly and efficiently executed, and should be a work of bibliographical authority." A demand which to-day may appropriately be made of the larger libraries of our own country, four, at least, of which are now larger than was the British Museum at that time, viz.: \* the Library of Congress, the Boston Public Library, Harvard College Library, and the Astor Library. There are, in addition to these, ten or fifteen others that already number over 100,000 volumes, each of which is now large enough to require the very best obtainable catalogue.

It is a noteworthy fact that most of the larger libraries, which years ago started out with the idea of making a very simple and cheap catalogue, a finding-list, or "title-a-liner," have in nearly every instance been obliged by their growth to abandon it for a fuller and more complete one; one containing more full and accurate biographical information. On this point Mr. Cutter in his admirable article on Library Catalogues in the special report on "Public Libraries in the United States" (1876, pt. 1, p. 549) touches, when he says: "There remain one or two points to be considered, the fulness of the catalogue, the insertion of biographical data, of contents, of analysis, and of notes. As to fulness, the general rule is, the larger the library the more elaborate the catalogue. Travellers who need no guide in a grove would be lost without one in a forest. As there are more chances of similarity between the various objects, there is need of more detail to distinguish them. Names must be given in full, dates in-

\* The number of volumes in the printed book department, when he (Panizzi) took the keepership in 1837, was only 240,000." Encyc. Brit., 9th ed., v. 14, p. 515.

\* Written for the St. Louis Conference.

serted in references, divisions made under more subjects; more exactness and more system are required in the selection of subject headings, and in their interconnection by references. So that the difficulty of making the catalogue and its bulk increase in faster ratio than the size of the library. . . . A printed catalogue need not be so full while the library is small, as it must be afterwards, because as its library grows it can be reprinted with the necessary additional details. But a card catalogue should be made as full at the start as it is ever to be, otherwise there will be no uniformity between its different parts, and the task of filling out the first defective entries will be troublesome, and nothing gained after all."\*

The tendency in cataloguing is always to enlarge the scope of the work as it progresses, and it requires a cataloguer of great strength of will to strictly adhere to the rules which he may have previously determined upon for his guidance. "In drawing up a set of rules the special wants of the library and the readers should be first considered, and then the most suitable rules chosen. . . . But when rules are decided upon, no alteration should be permitted during the compilation of the catalogue, as bad rules uniformly followed are better than good rules without uniformity."\* (H. R. Tedder and E. C. Thomas in Encyc. Brit., 9th ed article Libraries, v. 14, p. 339.) By many cataloguers a single departure from the rules is not thought a matter of much significance, but when to one is added another, and then another, the rules cease to have any binding effect, the uniformity of the work is destroyed, and there is a constant desire on the part of the cataloguer to make the work previously done, agree with his later ideas, until the latter state of that catalogue is worse than the first. A demand will sooner or later make itself felt, which is frequently lost sight of in most libraries, when the rules are first made for its catalogue. I refer to its future growth.

A simple catalogue, which answers very well for a small library, say of 2000 or 3000 volumes, becomes wholly inadequate when the library swells to five or ten times that number, which, in many cases, it will not be many years in doing. This fact is illustrated in the case of the catalogue of the Boston Athenæum, an interesting history of which is given at the end of the 5th volume. It was originally begun as a "title-a-liner." With the growth of the library and of the ideas, of its cataloguers, it was modified and enlarged in its scope, until the present excellent printed cat-

alogue was the result. This result was not reached, however, until a vast amount of labor had been wasted in correcting work which had been previously done, and which it would have been more economical to have thrown away and done anew. This is by no means a solitary example, though perhaps it may be more widely known than others.

Expensive and wasteful as all this is, it is the evolution through which almost every catalogue passes. The inexperience, incompetency, and ignorance of those engaged in the work are too often responsible for these results. Let us hope that a more enlightened policy is about to take its place; that the trustees of our libraries may be brought to comprehend that the best interests of their libraries demand that more liberal appropriations be made for their administration; that the purchase of books, no matter how extensively carried on, without a thorough and liberal administration of them after they are secured, will never make a great library. If he is a public benefactor who causes two blades of grass to grow where one only grew before, is not he much more one who, by the excellence of his cataloguing, causes one book to be consulted twice as often as formerly?

What are the lessons to be learned from the past, and how may we improve our present condition and wisely plan for the future? There are some very important lessons to be learned, and by no means the least among them is this, that, at the very outset, the future growth and needs of the library, for a long period of years, should be thoroughly canvassed and carefully weighed, and then, and not till then, should a set of cataloguing rules be adopted. In other words, the fullest and most complete rules should be decided on that the particular case under consideration will warrant, and when once adopted they should be scrupulously adhered to.

At the Conference held at the Catskills, Mr. Fletcher advocated "the abandonment of making subject catalogues . . . which will be provided for," as he said, "by special bibliographies and indexes prepared outside" (L. J. 13: 314). Much excellent work is being done in the publishing of special bibliographies and indexes, but I seriously doubt whether they will ever supplant the well-made subject catalogues of our libraries. Where one person comes to the library for the purpose of consulting a special bibliography or of finding what has been written upon a certain subject, the general experience of librarians will show that ninety-nine come to ascertain what the library con-

\* The italics are ours.



tains on that subject. One need not go far to seek for the means of answering this demand. Let special bibliographies be provided for the use of the librarian and of the few who care to consult them, if need be, but for the greater demand let the best possible subject catalogues be furnished. The library should spare no pains to meet this growing demand. It should use every means in its power to encourage its readers to read by subjects and to make its own catalogue as bibliographically full and accurate as possible; and the best means of answering this end is by the *subject catalogue*; "an idea," as Mr. Winsor has said, "in its development almost exclusively American." The need of the subject or systematic catalogue was, however, recognized as long as 1841 by L. A. Constantin Hesse. He says in his *Bibliothéconomie*, p. 98: "Il est incontestable que, dans le catalogue alphabétique, on trouve immédiatement un livre, si on en sait littéralement le titre et l'auteur; mais, quand on ne connaît l'un ou l'autre que vaguement le *catalogue systématique* est le guide le plus sûr. Il est donc urgent qu'une bibliothèque possède l'un et l'autre" (L. J. 4: 401).

The subject catalogue, better than any other, shows the resources of the library upon particular subjects, especially if it is a systematically classed one. It also affords the librarian great aid in developing his library symmetrically, as it shows him at a glance upon what subjects it is weak.

What is it that to-day makes the Boston Athenæum, the Peabody Institute, and the Harvard College Library the resort of the student and the scholar? Not that these libraries are necessarily the best selected nor the largest that they can find, but that their catalogues are so excellent that in them they find the resources of the library upon each particular subject most invitingly placed at their disposal, so that from them they can at pleasure make such selections as suit their needs. This will prove true of any and every library which is as carefully catalogued and arranged. Special bibliographies cannot take the place of a well-prepared subject catalogue, and I believe librarians will come to realize more and more the importance of having the best subject catalogues that can be made for the libraries under their charge.

There is great diversity of opinion as to what is the best form of catalogue, but that the subject or classed catalogue, in one form or another, has come to stay, I think there can be no reasonable doubt.

The catalogue of the future will contain full

names of authors and subjects of biography, with the dates of their births and deaths, followed, save in very exceptional cases, by the title in full as it appears upon the title-page, not omitting even the author's name in the form there given. The edition or series, if any, will appear as a part of the title. Then will follow the imprint, which will give a full bibliographical description of the book, including the name of the publisher or printer. Such descriptive and bibliographical information as would not regularly appear in the imprint, and which will help to throw any light upon the work or its character, or help to identify it, will appear in the form of a note. We shall come back to Professor Jewett's\* ideas upon these points as being in all respects the most satisfactory. The recent revival of his method of printing by separate stereotyped titles, by the *Publishers' Weekly*, attests the soundness of his judgment and may in the near future possibly lead to the adoption of his entire scheme for the "construction of the catalogues of libraries." Something of the fulness of entry just referred to is already to be found in the *Bulletin* of the Cincinnati Public Library (a library which, by the way, started out with a "title-a-liner"), which are models in this respect. The catalogue and supplement of the Milwaukee Public Library give, we believe, full titles, but not a full imprint. Of the catalogue of the library of Bowdoin College, 1863, which was compiled mainly in accordance with Professor Jewett's Rules, Mr. Sabin says in his "Bibliography of Bibliography" that it is "a model catalogue." The sincerity of this criticism is attested by the fact that he adopted to a considerable extent these same rules in his *opus magnum*, the "Dictionary of Books Relating to America."

"Experience shows," says Professor Jewett (Rules, p. 30), "that it takes less time to transcribe titles in full, than to abridge them with any tolerable degree of accuracy. . . . That a catalogue can be made more rapidly, more economically, and more satisfactorily by transcribing the titles faithfully and fully, without

\* I should be doing a great injustice to the reader if I failed to notice Mr. Cutter's admirable "Rules for a Printed Dictionary Catalogue," forming part II. of the "Special Report on Public Libraries in the United States," Washington, 1876. "A most exhaustive and useful work, rendering a reference to any other almost superfluous."—Ralph Thomas. *Aggravating Ladies*, 1880, p. 11, note. The Rules for Author and Classed Catalogues as used in Columbia College Library, with 52 fac-similes of sample cards, edited by Melvil Dewey Boston, 1888, is also well worth careful study.

the omission of a single letter or point, than by any proper plan of abridgment, cannot be denied by any one who has fairly made the experiment."

Had Mr. Sabin strictly followed the above rule or remark, we should probably have been spared one of the following entries which appear in his "Dictionary of Books Relating to America" under the heading

Bacon (v. 1, No. 2675, note).

Bacon, Leonard. A Plea for Africa; delivered in New Haven, July 4, 1825. New Haven, 1825. 8°, 22 p.

— A Plea for Africa . . . July 4, 1825. New Haven, 1825. 8°, 22 p.

These entries were doubtless made from the same book, and well illustrate the danger of abridging titles. Had the title of this book been several times longer it might have been so abridged as to almost defy detection unless by a comparison of the two copies used. In short the entry should be given so fully and accurately that if another copy of the same work should find its way into the library it would be unnecessary to compare the books themselves in order to determine whether it was a duplicate, the catalogue having fully answered that question.

Analytical work should be freely done. This is a matter of economy as well as of sound judgment. Every analytical entry adds to the available resources of the library and in many cases is as valuable as the purchase of a new volume. The smaller and poorer the library the more need there is that its resources should be expanded in this manner. Polytopical works should be brought out under each of the subjects treated, as well as under each author, if there be more than one. Polygraphical works require similar treatment, unless they treat entirely of one subject, in which case each author should be separately entered. Tables of contents should be freely given wherever they will prove serviceable. The names of editors, translators, joint authors, annotators, etc., should always appear in their regular alphabetical order. In fact the entire literary productions of every individual, so far as they may be found in the library, should appear under his name in the author catalogue, and in their appropriate places in the subject catalogue.

In the mss. or card catalogue the author and subject parts would seem to be more serviceable if kept separate. In the author or alphabetical part may, with propriety, be found the names of

all persons, whether used as author headings or the subjects of biography; the names of societies and bodies treated as authors, and title entries or references; while the subject part may be arranged either alphabetically in dictionary order under a simple list of subjects; in an alphetico-classed arrangement; or still again in the form of a systematic classed catalogue. The fulness of entry, that we have spoken of, need appear but once, viz.: in that part of the catalogue, either author or subject, which the librarian considers to be the most important. If he expects to print a subject catalogue only, his full entries should appear in that; if in an author catalogue, then in that.

The printed catalogue may assume one of several forms. It may consist: 1, of an author and title catalogue, with subjects of biography, entered in one alphabetical arrangement, with an index of subjects as recommended in Professor Jewett's Rules; 2, a subject catalogue arranged alphabetically under specific subjects, with an author index; 3, an alphetico-classed catalogue, with an author and subject index; and 4, finally, a systematic classed catalogue with an author and subject index.

A good example of the *first* form is that of the Bowdoin College Catalogue, to which reference has already been made. I know of no catalogues which have been printed upon the second or third plans, though they would seem to be perfectly practicable. The *second* would be produced were the subject part of either the Boston Athenæum Catalogue or that of the Peabody Institute to be printed separately, with an alphabetical author index. The *third* in like manner would be made by printing the subject part of the Brooklyn Catalogue or that of Harvard College Library independently, with proper author and subject indexes. The *fourth* or last form is well represented by the Catalogue of the Milwaukee Public Library, compiled by its librarian, Mr. K. A. Linderfeldt.

It may be asked why we should make use of indexes, instead of having the author or subject part, as the case may be, printed in full. If the library has ample funds, we would say by all means print both. But as a concession to economy we would advise the use of indexes as above suggested, for by so doing the bulk of the catalogue will be materially reduced, and thereby admit of producing the part printed with greater fulness of detail than if an attempt were made to print more. Another reason in favor of the use of indexes is illustrated in Mr. Linderfeldt's

idea of using the author index in his catalogue and supplements. As the index forms so inconsiderable a part of the work, whenever a sufficient number of supplements or supplementary volumes seem to warrant it, the indexes to the catalogue and its supplements can be recast into a single alphabet and printed, thus giving a single index to the whole. This seems to do away, to a great extent, with the objections so generally urged against supplements to catalogues.

There is no better way for a librarian to become acquainted with the contents of his library than by his taking a personal part in the preparation of its catalogue. While it may be largely used by the public, it must of necessity be constantly consulted by those connected with the library. For this reason, if for no other, it should contain that technical information, if we may so call it, that is continually required by the librarian and his assistants, as well as information upon all the important questions that the public are likely to ask, and which the contents of the library are able to answer. A catalogue of this description is not only a great *desideratum* for any library, but is a precious legacy to leave to one's successors, as it will enable them to take advantage of his labors and experience and to carry on the work without being burdened with that, which should have been done in the past.

As librarians we, one and all, owe a debt to our profession, and I know of no better way in which we can discharge that debt, than by doing all in our power to elevate the standard of the work in which we are engaged. It may be difficult, yea, doubtless is, for the older libraries to break away from their long-established usages, but the younger ones and those about to reorganize can at least take advantage of their position, and, guided by the experience of the past, can adopt such measures only as have stood the test of time, and are by general consent acknowledged to be the best. To them we look to produce work to which we shall be able to point with ever-increasing pride.

The labor necessary to make a carefully prepared catalogue is of necessity great; no species of literary labor makes such extensive demands upon the learning and skill of the author, but it is one which every librarian must face. He has no right to shrink it, trusting that special bibliographies and indexes may be brought out, perhaps by this generation, perhaps by the next, and which, when produced, will still be but clumsy tools for his constituency. No, rather gives us more and better catalogues. Let us hope that the future will furnish us with many library catalogues which for accuracy and fulness will rival the best of our bibliographical dictionaries.

#### LIBRARY SCHOOL VISIT TO BOSTON.

BY MISS MARY S. CUTLER.

It is related of a sexton who worked steadily at his lugubrious task for ten years without a respite, that he chose to spend his well-earned holiday in a neighboring cemetery investigating the methods of the sister institution. If this case exhibit a tendency, it is not surprising that we find the librarian, whose lot presents such a pleasing contrast, and whose happiness it is to pour the light upon his fellow-beings, not to extinguish it finally, gravitating as naturally to other libraries and librarians for consultation, comparison, and mutual help.

This propensity shows itself early in the career and is developed to a high degree in the Library School. Visiting libraries has been a form of instruction very popular among the students, and the interest has culminated in a recent trip to Boston for the purpose of studying the work in that library centre.

The party (15 in all) consisted of one member of the senior class, Miss Elizabeth Harvey, and the junior class as follows: the Misses Lucy Ball, Ada Bunnell, Lydia A. Dexter, Charlotte Fearey, Elizabeth L. Foote, Mary C. Jacobs, Jennie Y. Middleton, and Martha T. Wheeler, and Messrs. W. S. Burns and C. W. Plimpton, also two of the class of '88, Miss Nina E. Browne, of the New York State Library staff, and Miss Emma Hopson. They were accompanied by two of the Library School faculty, Miss Cutler and Miss Woodworth.

As Mr. Cutter said, we fell heirs to real A. L. A. weather, for changeful April gave us a solid week of sunshine.

Arriving in Boston at 3:20 p.m., Tuesday, April 15, by the Fitchburg Railroad, we made our first call, as was eminently fitting, at the Library Bureau, Mr. Parker saying the first "I am

glad to see you." Colonel Lockwood kindly took us to the top of the Equitable building, where we gained a bird's-eye view of the Hub and its harbor, and also a realizing sense of a Boston east wind.

Is there any one save Mr. Soule who would have thought to offer so charmingly novel an entertainment as a breakfast in the old Freeman Place Chapel, his very attractive place of business? Here we were made welcome on the first morning of our stay, and here we found Mrs. Soule, the members of the firm, Mr. Solberg, Mr. Cutter, and Gardner M. Jones, of the Library School class of '89. I venture to say that our genial host never stood before a more interested audience than that which listened to his after-breakfast speech on this library bookstore and its recent development. The plans for a new building which is to contain a parlor for librarians drew forth hearty approval.

Leaving here we followed Mr. Cutter across the street to his own library, "the Boston Athenaeum, on whose sunny roofs and beautiful chambers may the benediction of centuries of students rest!"\*

We found two hours far too short for all he had to show us, and regretted for the moment that we were not studying art instead of library economy, that we might take time to examine the rare and beautiful collections of the art-room. Here we met Miss Harriet Green, our instructor in dictionary cataloging, who went with us in the afternoon to the Mass. State Library. We took pleasure in noting how the peculiar problems of a State Library, which keep us busy at home, were worked out in one of the oldest and best institutions of its kind. Special thanks are due to Mr. Tillinghast and Miss Sawyer, who so kindly responded to our inquiries.

Libbie's auction-room later in the day afforded a pleasant variety, and through the courtesy of Mr. Libbie, after the sale was over, we examined some of the fine bindings and choice missals of the Hart collection.

Thursday morning was given to the Boston Public. We were taken through the departments by the person in charge of each, and Judge Chamberlain showed us the rooms containing the Barton and Prince collections, the treasures of the Barlow sale, and a chair formerly belonging to Sir Anthony Panizzi. In the order department we found Miss Laura Green, a

Library School student of the class of '90. We were much impressed by the amount of bibliographical work that is carried on under Mr. Whitney's charge in the cataloging-room, besides the regular work of the department.

We spent a pleasant hour with Miss Harriet Green at the Mass. Historical Society, receiving a cordial welcome from Dr. Green, the librarian, and then took the train for Newton.

We looked about this charming place with its little vistas, window-seats, cozy corners, pictures, and growing plants, half believing that we had wandered into some beautifully appointed private library, but with the explanation of methods by Miss Thurston and her assistants, this idea vanished and we studied with zest their peculiar distributing system. The "Cathedral Books," four volumes of photographs of English cathedrals, collected abroad by Miss Hannah James, and mounted skilfully with illuminated title-pages and autograph letters of the bishops, deserve more than this passing notice. They should be adequately described for the JOURNAL.

Our day at Harvard was memorable. Mr. Winsor met us just outside Gore Hall and devoted the day to us. I wish he might know how fully we appreciated the skill with which he engineered our little party so that we gained a clear and comprehensive view of the Harvard system, including the law and divinity school branches, besides visiting the other college buildings and the Cambridge Public Library. A helpful feature was the explanation of the order, catalog, and issue departments by Mr. Tillinghast, Mr. Lane, and Mr. Kiernan, before the tour about the building. We quite envied Miss Haywood, who presided over the beautiful Cambridge Library, the gift of Mr. Rindge. From one to three o'clock we were entertained in a most delightful way at Mr. Winsor's home, where we met Mr. Cutter, Mr. Soule, and many others of library repute.

A few of us were able to accept Mr. Cutter's invitation for Friday evening to attend a dramatic entertainment at Winchester, and what was our surprise to recognize an honored President of the American Library Association in "Mr. Reed, a respectable Vermont farmer," bustling about in bewildered anxiety over his harum-scarum boy!

At Wellesley, on Saturday morning, we were made welcome by Miss Godfrey, of the class of '88, and Miss Pierce, a former teacher in the School. The library seemed to be used to its

\* Margaret Fuller Memoirs, v. 1, page 265.

utmost capacity. We were glad to see the college itself in its beautiful spring setting.

Saturday afternoon was a go-as-you-please time; the art museum, German opera, and book-stores proving favorite resorts.

On Sunday afternoon and evening several found time to visit the Boston Public and to observe the crowd of quiet and eager readers who fill the lower reading-room and respond to the new opportunity of using Bates Hall. A few of our Western members under Mr. Gardner Jones' escort caught their first view of the ocean from the rocks of Nahant.

Arriving in Salem Monday morning, the following program was put into our hands:

Visit to Salem of the Library School, Monday, April 21, 1890, by invitation of the Essex Institute, Peabody Academy of Science, and Salem Public Library.

#### ITINERARY.

Arrive in Salem at 9:34 a.m.

Salem Public Library until 11:30 a.m.

Peabody Academy of Science until 12:45 p.m.

Lunch at Plummer Hall, 1 p.m.

Essex Institute and Salem Athenæum until 2:30 p.m.

Visit to Court Houses and Law Library.

Ride to points of historical interest in Salem, and to the

Peabody Institute Library at Peabody.

All through this delightful day we struggled to reconcile the air of the old town with its house of seven gables, witch-plins, and Gallows hill to the intensely modern spirit that governs the library interests of the place. The advocates of specialization in recent issues of the *JOURNAL* would find here that wise and hearty cooperation for which they plead. The secret of it all must be sought, I suspect, in the individuals who administer these libraries and museums and who so cordially united in hospitality for our pleasure. I would mention the names of Dr. Wheatley, T. F. Hunt, Dr. Brooks, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Stone, Mr. Jones, and Miss Roberts. The genuine flavor of "Old Salem" is caught in the little book with that title by Eleanor Putnam, which we have read since our return.

At Peabody Institute we were kindly received by Mr. Upham, who showed us their fine reference library and a portrait of Queen Victoria painted for George Peabody.

Right here I want to express our appreciation of the unvarying courtesy and thoughtful kindness of the assistants in every library, which gave an added charm to all our visits.

Tuesday morning we left Boston reluctantly, Miss Green, Mr. Davidson, and Mr. Parker bidding us good-by at the Boston and Albany station. At Worcester we were met by Mr. Samuel Green, who took us to the Public Library and gave an exceedingly interesting talk on keeping libraries out of politics, on reference work and the plans for his new building, which will be ready for occupancy next winter. We are also indebted to him for a lunch at the Worcester Club, where we met President Salisbury, of the American Antiquarian Society, Mr. Russell and Mr. Green, of the Public Library trustees, Mr. and Mrs. Barton, Mr. and Mrs. Green, and also the staff of the Public Library. We lingered so long at this charmed board that, much to our regret, Mr. Barton had only time to give us a glimpse of his treasures at Antiquarian Hall before the arrival of the four o'clock train which brought us back to Albany.

We seemed to be refreshed rather than exhausted after the busy week, and the quizzes which followed proved that the class has attained a pretty substantial fund of information and a fair general knowledge of each library. All were required as a problem to present a written account of six of the charging systems seen on the trip and a plan drawn from memory of the Rindge Library at Cambridge.

It is easy to test acquaintance with facts; the fresh zeal for our work, the larger view of its possibilities, the new interest in library literature which comes from personal relations with other workers, these cannot be measured, and yet we are persuaded such intangible results will remain the best part of our visit.

#### GEORGE PERKINS MARSH.

ON FINISHING THE CATALOGUE OF HIS LIBRARY,  
BY HARRY LYMAN KOOPMAN.

At length I lay my weary pen aside,  
Which now has traced out all the tangled maze,  
The labyrinth of speech and thought, whose ways,  
To me so sore, to him were smooth and wide,  
And rich with prospects unto most denied;  
To him, the scholar, crowned with Europe's praise,  
From Hecla unto Etna's answering blaze;  
Who loved all books, but Nature's deepest eyed.  
He sat with kings, their greater but in name,  
An uncrowned sovereign from the kingless West;  
To triflers cold, how warm to the oppressed!  
And when amid the Etrurian bowers death came  
To round his eighty years of lore and fame,  
Not Vallombrosa bore so calm a breast.

LIBRARY OF THE UNIV. OF VT., May, 1890.



## FREDERICK VINTON.

[Slightly altered from a notice prepared by Prof. WINANS for the *College Bulletin*, Princeton College, April 1890.]

FREDERIC VINTON, librarian of the college, died in the first hour of 1890. His last illness was short—he was at his desk on the day college closed for the Christmas holidays—but his health had been failing for a long time.

Mr. Vinton was born in Boston, Oct. 9, 1817. He was a son of Deacon Josiah and Mrs. Betsy Vinton, and a brother of the well-known Rev. John Adams Vinton, and of Alfred Vinton, Esq., of St. Louis. He became hopefully a Christian at the early age of eleven years, fitted for college at Weymouth and Braintree academies, and joined the church in Braintree in 1832. He graduated from Amherst in 1837. Later he studied theology, one year, at New Haven, and two at Andover, graduating in 1843. He preached for a short time only, and was not ordained. Poor health compelled him to give up preaching, and for several years he taught the high school in Nantucket, 1845–47, and afterward that in Eastport, Me., 1847–51. At this period he suffered an attack of paralysis, which for a time took away his speech, and again another which affected his limbs, and he was for a long time in the hospital. This sickness determined his course of life. While still an invalid he went to St. Louis, and there, 1852–55, together with other literary work, he executed a manuscript catalogue of his brother's library of some 5000 volumes. The books were entered by authors, by titles, and by thorough subject analysis, making a catalogue of about 2400 pp. folio. The execution is beautiful—without a blot or an erasure—and the work itself is done with such minute accuracy that although the library is dispersed, this catalogue has a permanent bibliographical value. This work led, on his return east in 1856, to his appointment as assistant librarian in the Boston Public Library, where he had charge of the arrangement of 30,000 volumes in Bates Hall, then first occupied. He also worked on the catalogue of 1861, and carried through the press the first third of the catalogue of 1865. In 1865 he was called to Washington as first assistant in the Congressional Library. Here he prepared six of the supplementary subject catalogues, together making two large volumes.

Mr. Vinton came to Princeton in 1873. The new building was just ready for occupation, and Mr. Vinton's first work was the laborious one of moving and reclassifying the books under a more scientific arrangement. The library then had 18,000 volumes, and the Trendelenburg Library of some 10,000 was soon added. This purchase added many rare books, but not many for common use. Less than half the total number of books, Mr. Vinton estimated, were useful in a working library. We read with amazement, from a list Mr. Vinton at once prepared, the titles of standard and indispensable books then not on our shelves. Mr. Vinton set himself to fill out these *lacunæ*, and especially to add books in all departments

which should be useful to the students not less than to the Faculty. One of his early reports is a special plea for means to buy books that shall attract students to use the library. In his first year the borrowers out of 400 students average only 26 each library day, "a per diem of 1-16th of a man." Nothing shows better the changed character of the library than the figures for the current year, which show an average of over 60 books taken each day. In addition to the regular income of the Elizabeth Foundation fund Mr. Vinton had frequent special gifts from the same generous source. Separate author and subject card catalogues were at once begun, and in 1884 the subject-catalogue was printed in a volume of 900 pages, double column. By this time the library, grown symmetrical and increased to 70,000 volumes, was worthy of the college. Nevertheless, Mr. Vinton has left a carefully prepared list of perhaps a 1000 titles of single books and sets essential to the completeness of a University library.

Mr. Vinton's most striking characteristic as a librarian and as a man was the conscientiousness and fidelity to principle which dominated his every action. In the routine of the library and in the arrangement of the books he practised a rigorously consistent and logical system, and he regarded an apprehension of this system as in itself a valuable intellectual discipline to the students. Clear in the mind of the librarian, the system was not always evident to the student, and the student oftentimes resented the intellectual gymnastic administered from the desk before his query was answered. In the end no one could be more patient in resolving a student's perplexity or obliging in finding or suggesting needed books. Experience only can make one appreciate the trials of patience from the perversities of human nature to one who stands at desk or counter. And Mr. Vinton during the later part of his life was often in sharp physical suffering, borne quietly and heroically, while he stood at his post.

Mr. Vinton was a man of wide reading, and his profession led him into out-of-the-way fields of research. His knowledge was diversified and recondite. He used to quote approvingly the Spanish motto, "He that sells oil, anoints his own hands." At Washington his helpfulness to Charles Sumner led to a warm personal friendship. And here his literary and historical knowledge outside of the beaten paths has often enabled him to teach the teachers, and always with evident delight. From a boy he was devoted to historical study, and the sections of English literature and history—if he had his favorites—were those which he took pride in filling out, and in these sections the library is perhaps strongest to-day.

The great catalogue was the crowning work of his life. It has elicited the heartiest commendations from those qualified to judge of such work. The ordinary library user seeks a well known book and finds it from the cards; but this volume shows at a glance the resources of the library in

a given subject, guides the learner, aids the specialist, and shows abroad the bulk of what our library contains. It will always have a value as a subject-analysis, even though in some rearrangement it should cease to be a guide to the shelves.

Mr. Vinton, with little leisure, wrote many articles for periodicals. A partial list of them added below will show his favorite lines of research. Mr. Vinton did much untrumpeted Christian work among the poor of the village, and by some of the titles it will appear how warm an interest he took in missions. He has left in manuscript a very interesting lecture on Manuscript Illumination, and, partly finished, Reminiscences of Maria Mitchell, the astronomer, recently deceased, who was an intimate friend from childhood. The annual reports to the trustees furnish a complete history of the library under Mr. Vinton's administration, with valuable statistics.

Mr. Vinton's constant fidelity to the duties of his office through seventeen years of service in the college is beyond praise. Of itself, apart from his admirable qualities as a man and librarian, it distinguished him, and will not soon be forgotten.

In 1886 he received the degree of Litt. D. from Amherst College.

Articles: St. Patrick's Purgatory and the Inferno of Dante, Book Rarities at Washington, President Witherspoon, History of the College Library (in the Princeton Book), Training of Assistants in a Library, Vernacular Bibles and the Reformation, The First Atlas ever Published (in our library), One of the Oldest American Books (Simple Cobbler of Aggawam, in our library), Sir John Mandeville, Barlaam and Josaphat, Tyndale's Pentateuch, Ancient Hebrews and Modern Jews, Stanley's Congo and Dark Continent, France and Madagascar; Patteson, the Missionary and Martyr; Alaska as a field for Missions; Henry Martyn.

We quote also from the *Princeton Press* some remarks signed "M.":

The lifetime of Dr. Vinton covers a space in which the profession that he chose has been almost entirely created. The librarian of 1820 was a mechanic, to keep out thieves, to give out books and to take them in again. The librarian of 1890 is a professional man, and his profession is one of his own invention and creation. The last age of library-keepers has lifted them into a notice which seats them permanently, as professionally engaged men, and that of a very high grade of service. Books are in swarms, and to turn them into alcoves with no other skill than to keep a memory of them, and to give the applicant the book he names, is to leave each man to be his own bibliographer. This is an immense waste. It makes book writers write books over again that are in their college, looking at them from the very shelves. It makes students gather material painfully which these new-class librarians can put at a word into their hands. Such help concentrates the inventive vision. It creates possibilities otherwise unknown. Like the spinning jenny or the reaper or subterranean oil, it has not come a moment too soon.

Now Dr. Vinton has had much to do with all we have been saying. His very advent in Princeton was due to his grasping of this new profession as he became distinguished in it in Boston and in Washington. There is but one way for Princeton to forget his labor, and that is by burying the memory of it under the lapse of the order that he achieved. Books won't rest, unfortunately. They come pouring in. A catalogue is soon snowed under. It is a marvellous misunderstanding of Dr. Vinton's catalogue to suppose that it is a machine for finding the books—that could be done much less expensively. It is a full bibliography of the shelves. And more and more as the college crowds and the library doubles will this pointer to what it contains have to be kept up. Immense as the labor is, it is much less and less costly than the labor of creating literature that exists already, and painstaking collecting in fragments that which has been put together in the past, and which exists right at arms-length before us on the shelves.

There are scores of us who never were very intimate with Dr. Vinton, and yet are drawn to him strangely and grieve, one might suppose disproportionately, at the event of his death. We think we know the secret of this pervading influence. It is silent but strangely penetrating. *It is this man's strange fidelity.* One could not at will call up his equal. He was the least of an eye-servant. That unmistakable manner by which a man plays the rôle of faithfulness either with or without the reality, he seemed to be utterly destitute of. An onlooker might be amused. President or Freshman came equally within the sweep of his rules. And yet if the present writer is moved by anything except that perpetual and overtaken faithfulness, it is by that solid courtesy and that ready helpfulness by which he was met in anything he proposed.

Princeton has known some of his lesser faithfulness. The old sufferer at the Basin and the afflicted homes where Dr. Vinton has crossed the track of other ministers in their parish work, reveal provisions for the suffering and walks and actual work after the labors of the library, that make one rebel at that message to the Chapel that nothing at all should be told at his funeral.

#### TARIFF ON BOOKS BY MAIL.

BY C. B. CURTIS.

From the *N. Y. Tribune*.

IN a letter published in the *Tribune* of March 12 I drew attention to our illiberal and harmful tax on knowledge. I showed that this is the only country in the world that imposes a protective duty on books. What I wish to speak of more particularly at this time is books by mail. In other countries these pass free under the International Postal treaties, and they did so here until the United States Customs officials found an excuse for taxing them, when, at our instigation, new treaties had to be negotiated especially to fit our case.

The most remarkable thing about our system of collecting duties on books by mail is that the

work was begun not to obtain money for the government, but in order to give employment to some persons for whom at the time no other occupation could be found. I happen to be in possession of a bit of secret history which ought to be made public, not for the credit of the government or of the actors concerned, but because it is a spot on which the sunlight should be turned for sanitary reasons. The statement is so extraordinary that I would not dare to repeat it if I did not have it direct from the person most conversant with the facts.

A few years ago a certain person in New York made the discovery that under the law and practice then in force all books not exceeding \$1 in value were imported by mail without payment of duty. Being out of employment at the time, but willing to make himself useful to his country, this person sought an interview with the Collector of this port and proposed that a bureau should be established by means of which tribute might be exacted on every book imported by mail, no matter how small the value. The Collector promptly rejected the suggestion, on the ground that it would be discreditable for the government to engage in so paltry a business, and also for the reason that the receipts would not pay the cost of collection. But the inventor of the scheme was persistent and he submitted his plan to the Secretary of the Treasury, offering to take charge of the business himself at his own risk, and to receive the duties collected for his sole compensation. The offer was at last accepted and the enterprising promoter was placed at the head of the bureau, when, as had been anticipated, he found himself out of pocket, but he finally secured a change in the system and the loss now falls on the government. This was the origin of the bureau for the collection of duties on books by mail.

In the year 1889 there was received by foreign mails at the New York Post-Office 127,030 packages, containing 222,120 books. The duties collected amounted to exactly \$23,294.29, being 18 cents per package or a trifle over 10 cents for each book. To collect this sum required a force of nineteen men, some of them receiving salaries as high as \$2000. Since the average duty was only 10 cents on each book, it is safe to say that on 150,000 of them the duties were less than 8 cents each.

The labor expended in this work is enormous. Each package is opened, examined, appraised and closed again; two entries at least, and often more, are made; a quarter of a million of letters are written and sent, on which the postage alone would be more than \$5000; accounts are kept with every post-office in the United States to which packages are addressed; collections are made, examined, and credited; stationery, printed forms, account-books, rent, fuel, lights, and other expenses are paid, and all this to enable the government to collect \$23,294.29 in sums of 18 cents each from 127,030 individuals. The statement seems incredible, but it is true.

That the business is done at a loss cannot be questioned. I have been informed by a person formerly ranking among the highest of the officials in charge of the work that the cost of this

bureau, all expenses included, is not less than \$60,000; that is to say, it costs 46 cents to collect the 18 cents due on each package. This estimate may appear extravagant, but it is given on the best of authority, and when it is considered that the work requires the services of nineteen well-paid men, it is evident that the figures are not overstated. Certainly no commercial house would undertake to collect \$23,000 in sums of 18 cents each from 170,000 persons at remote post-offices in every State in the Union for thrice the amount received.

It is doubtless true that if this duty were abolished it would still be necessary to guard against smuggling, but this work could be easily performed by one or two inspectors at moderate pay, and all the expensive machinery of this system could be dispensed with.

Following the example of the most enlightened nations, we should make all books free, but if this is asking too much we may at least add to the free list "books, maps and engravings specially imported, not more than one copy for the use of any individual and not for sale; and books more than one year old and not republished in the United States."

I should not omit to say that the McKinley bill places on the free list "books in any other language than English." This adds another argument for the adoption of the clause above proposed. It will almost annihilate the work of the Post-Office Bureau, since books in German, French, Italian, Spanish and other foreign languages comprise probably more than two-thirds of the books arriving by mail. The remaining duties will perhaps not exceed \$5000 to \$8000, but the expense of the establishment will not be materially diminished. Why not abolish the bureau altogether?

#### LIBRARY ADVERTISING.

HANDBILL OF THE ST. LOUIS PUBLIC LIBRARY.

A

#### VACATION TRIP ROUND THE WORLD

Is offered to every child in St. Louis for \$1.00. All boys and girls who can read may obtain the pleasure and profit of a journey around the world during the coming vacation by joining the parties, headed by Stanley, Du Chaillu, Jules Verne, the Hales (Rev. E. E. and Miss Susan), Vincent, Ober, and other famous travellers, that start from the public library every week. If you want to join any of these expeditions, and learn all about foreign countries, how the people look and dress, what kind of animals are found there and how they are hunted, if you want to have a good time in your vacation roaming all over the world, come and register your name. It will cost you only one dollar; and you can continue your travels for a year. Tickets for adults, \$2.00 a year. Public Library, cor. 7th and Chestnut Streets.

J. C. LEARNED, *President*.

FRED'K M. CRUNDEN, *Librarian*.

ST. LOUIS, May 1, 1890.

## American Library Association.

### WHITE MOUNTAIN MEETING.

THE Library Bureau reports unusual promise of a large attendance and will shortly issue circular with exact place, days, and travelling arrangements. It was voted at St. Louis to meet in the first week of Sept. (1-6), but the present outlook indicates an even chance that we cannot secure satisfactory accommodations till a week later, Sept. 8-13.

General sentiment seems to favor the White Mountains over Lake George, because so many of our members have never visited the Mountains and no A. L. A. meeting has yet been held there.

President Crunden is devoting himself faithfully and energetically to making a strong program and reports the items below as already settled with several other good things nearly ready to announce.

An attractive coaching party through the Mountains is rumored at the Library Bureau as a feature, and I was promised a delegation of the best men from the L. A. U. K. at their Oct. meeting and since returning have the promise renewed by letter. The 1890 meeting bids fair to be the largest yet held. Those who are to go should send their names to Assistant Sec. W. E. Davidson, at the Library Bureau as soon as a decision is reached, thus increasing the chances for good accommodations.

### PARTIAL PROGRAM.

#### Annual Reports.

A. L. A.: Past, present and future. Sec'y Dewey, N. Y. State Library.

Aids and guides. W: Beer.

Architecture. H: M. Utley, Detroit P. L.

Cataloging and Classification. K. A: Linderfelt, Milwaukee P. L.

College Libraries. Azariah Root, Oberlin College L.

Gifts and Bequests. Miss C. M. Hewins, Hartford L. Assoc.

Legislation. Thorvald Solberg, Boston.

Reading for the young. Mrs. M. A. Sanders, Pawtucket P. L.

#### Papers.

Classification from the reader's point of view. W: E. Foster, Providence.

Trustees: Their duties and their relations to librarians. J: C. Learned, President St. Louis P. L.; C: C. Soule, Trustee Brookline P. L.; S: S. Green, Worcester F. P. L.

Public library and the public school. Dr. W: T. Harris, U. S. Commissioner of Education.

The essential and the desirable in a public library, from a reader's point of view. Prof. J. K. Hosmer, St. Louis, and Paul L. Ford, LIBRARY JOURNAL.

The proper lighting of library rooms. W: I. Fletcher, Amherst College L.

Principles of classification. E. C. Richardson, Hartford Theol. Institute L.

A paper. L. H. Steiner, Baltimore P. L.

Other papers for which the invitations have not yet been definitely accepted.

MELVIL DEWEY, *Secretary*.

N. Y. STATE LIBRARY, JUNE 5, 1890.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

THE LIBRARY FOR MAY, 1890. *Contents:*

Poor Dryadust! by Richard Le Gallienne.

An East End Free Library; by G. F. Hicken.

Fiction in Free Libraries; by Thomas Mason.

A New Size Notation for Modern Books; by

Arthur W. Hutton.

Tudor Exhibition at the British Museum.

The Library Chronicle.

### SPECIAL.

*Boston P. L.* Added 22,932; total 520,508; issued for home use 1,079,030 v.; 627,264 magazines were used in the reading-room. The experiment of opening the reference library in the evening is a success; the average attendance is 126. The Examining Committee recommend opening the reference hall on Sunday afternoon.

"Some years ago the trustees made a determined effort, that has been steadily maintained, to raise the standard of the books supplied to the public. At first their policy resulted in a considerable decrease in the circulation, but the call for the better class of books has constantly increased, until during the present year the use of the library has been greater than ever before. This result is very gratifying, as showing a growing demand for wholesome literature.

Although a careful investigation fails to show that any disease has been spread by means of library books, the trustees, through perhaps excess of caution, have during the year made arrangements whereby the Board of Health reports to them all the houses in which there is any contagious disease, so that books and cards that are returned from such houses can be withdrawn from circulation and disinfected.

*Boston Soc. of Natural History Library.* Added 290 v., 1985 pts., 364 pm., 3 maps.

*The Brooklyn (N. Y.) L.* The association has purchased the property in Pierrepont St., in the rear of its Montague St. building, partly as an investment and partly to prevent the erection of an immense office building, which would cut off the light in the library and reading-room. When

the two-years' lease upon the property expires, it is probable that an extension of the office building connected with the library will be erected.

*Buckland, Mass.*, is soon to have a valuable town library, through the efforts of the Rev. A. C. Hodges. Some \$2000, the requisite amount for a modest fire-proof structure, has already been secured, and the building is to be erected this season. Mr. Hodges offered, some years ago, to give the library 2000 volumes as soon as it was established. The library will be free to residents of the place, but will be in the hands and under the management of the church. The Sunday-school library, some 500 books, all the town has had, will also go into the new library. Scientific and poetical works will find room on the shelves with a few standard novels, but the backbone of the library will be religious, and the trashy novel will be tabooed.

*Chicago, Newberry L.* Added 16,492 v., 1816 pm.; total 37,375 v., 12,349 pm.; spent for books, periodicals, and binding \$38,618.55, for salaries \$12,704.48.

"The trustees expect to begin the erection of the permanent library building during the present year; and while its erection is in progress, the library and the public in the early spring will be conveniently accommodated in the building now being finished on the corner of North State and Oak Streets, only one block distant from the lot selected for its permanent location. The temporary building covers a space of 60 by 160 feet, is two stories high, and has a capacity of shelving about 200,000 volumes."

The trustees speak of the Crerar Library and say: "The library needs of the city, which is to be the literary as it is now the commercial centre of the Western States, are very great; and the collection of books required for the use of scholars in every department of knowledge is attended with immense expense."

"It is also apparent that the funds which are now available, although larger than are possessed by any other city in the land, are not sufficient to meet at once the full necessities of scholars, and at the same time retain a foundation ample for the future maintenance of the libraries. As these libraries grow the expenses of their administration as well as of their book purchases will greatly increase. These funds, therefore, must be managed with prudence and economy; and if the principals be kept intact as far as possible, their incomes with the natural appreciation of property will build up great collections."

"The Public Library is by the statute under which it was organized a circulating library. It also maintains a reference department which, in the absence of any other, has been very serviceable to the public. A very considerable portion of its income has been expended in reference-books which do not circulate. The Newberry Library is solely a reference library. It then becomes a question whether the Public Library may not now suspend in a measure its purchases of expensive books of reference, and spend the money in the circulating department by increasing the selection and the number of copies of books most in demand by the public. The policy

of the John Crerar Library, whether it be a reference or circulating library, or both, has not yet been determined. There are departments, however, in each of the libraries now in operation to which special attention has already been given, and valuable books have been procured. It would seem to be the policy of the other libraries not to duplicate these books, but to spend their funds in building up their own special departments.

"As an illustration: One set of the United States and foreign Patent publications which the Public Library possesses is enough for the city. The Newberry Library has a collection of books on Music probably unsurpassed in this country. One of the libraries will probably collect books on Medicine which will meet the needs of the profession. One good special collection of works on architecture, sculpture, painting and engraving is more convenient to Art students for consultation than if the books were scattered among two or three libraries. Of books of great rarity and value one copy only need be purchased. To this end it is desirable that there be a concert of action between trustees of the three libraries, and that an allotment be made of the special fields they will cover in their collections."

*Chicago P. L.* The City Council have voted, 40 to 15, to take Dearborn Park for a Memorial Hall to the Veterans in Cook County and a Public Library. The *Tribune* says: "This plot of ground not only is not a park now, but never can be one. It is too small and its permanent environments are too uninviting for anything but a goat pasture. It would be a relief to everybody to see it covered with any sort of a handsome building, and especially with a handsome public library building."

"As to the suitability of this location for public library purposes, it has many things in its favor. All of the street-car lines run close to it, and make it one of the most accessible points in the city. Its proximity to the lake would secure for upper stories of the building abundant light, refreshing breezes, and beautiful scenery. Whether the dampness from the lake and the smoke from the locomotives would injure the books, and whether the constant din from the streets and from the railroad tracks would incommode students are questions which probably only experience can answer."

"The only drawback to this scheme lies in its legal aspects. Although the United States granted this land to the city on the conditions of its being used as a park forever, there is probably no danger of interference from that direction. But there is great danger of injunction suits from the abutting property-owners, who have bought land and built houses on the faith of the condition annexed to the grant. They are in the same position that Warren F. Leland is with regard to the lake front, and possibly not even a quitclaim from the government would divest them of their rights. At any rate, this phase of the subject demands a careful and thorough consideration."

*Cornell University L.* By an opinion of the Supreme Court rendered May 19 Cornell Uni-



versity loses all hope of the \$1,000,000 or more left to it in Sept., 1881, by Jennie McGraw Fiske, wife of the college librarian, Prof. Willard Fiske. The will was disputed by the widower (who had signed an agreement before marriage not to interfere with his wife's disposition of her property at her death), on the ground that, in 1871, Cornell was possessed of \$3,000,000 worth of property, which was all its charter permitted it to hold. The expected money was to have been devoted to the library of the university. Anticipating its loss, however, Mr. H. W. Sage, formerly the partner of Mrs. Fiske's deceased father, J. McGraw, has given \$500,000 for the erection of a library building as a memorial of the lady whose will has been broken. — *Critic*, May 24.

*Cornell Univ. L.* Exercises and addresses at the laying of the corner-stone of the University Library building. Oct. 30, 1889. Ithaca, the Univ., [1890]. 30 p. Q.

Contains Hist. sketch of the building, by Pres. C. K. Adams; Description of the building, by acting Libn. G. W. Harris; Address in behalf of the Faculty, by Prof. G. C. Caldwell; Address by Ex-Pres. A. D. White.

*Florence, Mass.* The managers of the new Lilly Library, recently dedicated, have made a proposition to the city library committee of Northampton, to turn over the control of the new library building and of the books, nearly 3000 in all, now in its possession, to the city library committee on condition that henceforth the city will pay the running expenses of the library and that it will remove its books from the branch library in the Cooney building at Florence to the new library building. The proposition is that this arrangement continue as long as the library is run to the Lilly Library Association's approval, the title to each party's property remaining undisturbed, while allowing the city complete control.

*Grand Rapids, Mich.* The Iowa Masonic L. has issued a 2d edition of "An appeal to Iowans in behalf of the Iowa author collection of books for the Iowa department." It gives a list of over 300 Iowa authors, all of whose writings it desires to acquire.

*Harlem (N. Y.) L.* By the will of Dr. William G. Wood, the library is to receive the interest of \$3000.

*Keene, N. H.* H. O. Coolidge has offered to the city council to purchase the Perry estate for \$15,500, as a site for a public library building, when the Symonds legacy becomes available, adding \$4500 for library uses, the city paying 4 per cent. during the lifetime of Mr. Coolidge or his wife. The offer has been accepted.

*Lowell (Mass.) City L.* Added 2818; total 38,251 (fict. 19,178); home use 94,080 (fict. 72,778); lib. use 8510.

"Miss Vinton, of the Varnum School, stated also that she had learned from the parents and relatives of the scholars that the selection of books by the teachers was highly appreciated. If children read bad books she thought it was be-

cause they had nobody to select a better class of reading for them. A gentleman who is a constant patron of the library and who is deeply interested in the reading of his children says: 'To-day I visited the reference-room with my young daughter, an ambitious child fourteen years old. I found she wanted Gray's poems, Thomson's Seasons, Southey's poems, and Webster's Reply to Hayne. Pretty fair for a girl who, a few months ago, "Didn't like poetry!" and who, in fact, had one favorite author — Mary J. Holmes. Lest it should be inferred that the selection of Webster's discussion of a great constitutional question was accidental, it may be mentioned that she finds Bacon's essays interesting and cannot see why anybody should object to such reading as being too hard for her; is at home with Carlyle, delights in Dante, and has her own opinion of Goethe, Mill, and Ruskin. It is now time to tell how my part was done. It is true I knew something about books already, but I now consulted books about books in the City Library and with such helps made out a list for a beginning. So far as the list went, the girls had also an idea of what I wanted. As this gave them a wide range in the very kind of reading they delighted in, it now became reasonable to forbid reading outside. Two principles governed my selections: one was that pleasant tastes and mental appetites were to guide and I was to follow but not drive the mind. The other was that while the mental appetite of the reader was to determine the class of reading, my own judgment was to determine the selections within that class, and the book must be the best of that kind. A boy who reads Indian and trapper stories of the dime novel type will read Cooper's if he is shut up to them, and will find them interesting in the same way. By the time he has read "Deerslayer," "Pathfinder," and "Wept of the Wish-ton-wish," you are liable to find him ready for some other reading which he would have rejected before. But do not expect success too soon. I tried these girls for many discouraging and half-encouraging months, with armfuls of books from the City Library — now a book of travels, now one of poetry, tested them and tried their mental cravings. All the time it was mine to know the aim, and it was mine to watch their minds. I should never have succeeded by lecturing. I knew that the key to good reading was selection, and that in every class of books there were some that would prove stepping-stones to some class of a different kind. I knew that the mind which showed keen interest in a second-rate author would also be interested in a first-rate one of the same circle. For all the rest trust your children's minds.'

"An interesting exhibit of the class of reading pursued by many of our child patrons is afforded by the following list of desired books left in the library by a girl of not more than thirteen or fourteen years: 'Bancroft's Colonial History of the United States,' 'Young Folks' History of America,' 'Popular Historical Stories,' 'Frederick the Great,' by Louise Mühlbach; 'Life of Boone,' by E. S. Ellis; 'Last of the Mohicans,' J. F. Cooper; 'History of Scotland' (in 'Tales of a Grandfather'), Sir Walter Scott; 'Leather

Stocking,' Cooper; 'Zigzag Journeys in the British Isles,' by Butterworth; 'Girls Who Became Famous' and 'Boys Who Became Famous,' by Sarah K. Bolton."

*Ludlow, Mass.* On May 3 the Hubbard Memorial Library was formally presented to that town. The library building, with 2500 volumes, is given in memory of Mr. Charles Townsend Hubbard by his wife and children. Mr. Charles W. Hubbard formally presented the deeds to the town authorities, and speeches were made by various other persons.

*Lynn (Mass.) F. P. L.* Added 2509; total 41,298; issued 41,298 v., 3260 pm.

"Lack of space hinders the whole work of the library and seriously impairs its usefulness. If during the past three years all the books in circulation had been in at any one time, they could not have been accommodated on the shelves. If they should all be in the building now at any given time, upwards of 4000 volumes must be piled upon the floor. There is absolutely no space left to make new shelves.

"The proportion of light reading was formerly not less than 80%. Recently, in several successive years, the percentage of reading in history, science, travels, etc., has advanced, and the table accompanying this report shows that for the year now under review it is higher than ever before. Some of the teachers in the public schools have given especial attention to this good work."

*N. Y. F. Circulating L.* Miss Catharine W. Bruce has given the trustees \$20,000 as an endowment for the branch of the library in 42d Street, near 8th Avenue. Miss Bruce built this branch as a memorial to her father, G. Bruce, at a cost of \$60,000. It was formally opened to the public Jan. 6, 1888, and by the end of that year contained 9274 volumes. Miss Bruce during that year gave \$10,000 more and later \$500. The Bruce branch now has a circulation of about 100,000 annually, the number of readers who frequent the reading-rooms being about 20,000 yearly. — *Critic*, May 24.

*New York Merc. L.* THOMPSON, SCOTT. The Mercantile Library. (In *Harper's weekly*, May 3, p. 347-348.) 1½ p.

A history, with views of Clinton Hall and of the proposed new building.

"The new building will occupy exactly the same space of ground as the former, the several sides measuring 159, 52, 149, 98 ft. It will rise 7 stories above the sidewalk to a height of 115 feet, and when completed will be absolutely fire-proof. The walls up to the third story will be of gray Quincy granite, and solid through to the interior; the upper stories to be of dark buff or Holland brick, with supporting buttresses of red sandstone. The architecture will be composite Renaissance. The interior of the building will be finished entirely in hard woods, the stairways of iron with stone treads. The main hall of the circulating library will be on the seventh or top-most floor, with a ceiling 25 feet high, and lighted on three sides, as well as by an immense skylight that will occupy nearly two-thirds of the

roof space. The room will be fitted with three-story iron galleries running around the four sides, and containing iron book-stacks of the most approved pattern. Private rooms for the officers of the library will be provided on this floor, and the accommodations for cataloguing, a bookbindery, and other necessary departments of a large library will be on the sixth floor. There will be ample space on the shelves for the arrangement of 500,000 books, or more than twice the number now in the library, which is about 230,000 volumes. The architect's estimate of cost of the structure is \$450,000.

*Ocean Hill, Brooklyn, N. Y.* In response to circulars sent out by a committee of the Ocean Hill Free Reading-Room Society, a mass meeting was held to aid the establishment of a reading-room for young men. The financial secretary of the society gave some interesting figures. He said that \$110 had already been collected and that a private house had been hired on Herkimer Street, near Rockaway Avenue. About \$1000 was needed, and with five churches behind the society that ought not bother them much. He hoped to get enough subscribers by the month to pay the rent, \$40 a month, and running expenses of the rooms.

*Orange (N. J.) F. L.* The rooms of the library were well filled at the book reception that was held there last month. Tea was served by the women of the Board of Management all the afternoon, and many volumes, some of them of real value, were added.

*Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Hist. Soc. L.* has received the autograph collection of Mr. Ferdinand J. Dreer.

Mr. Dreer began his collections forty years ago and his gift embraces 9000 letters. He was incited to this work by reading Lossing's "Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution," in which were great numbers of fac-similes of signatures. He aspired to get the original and add them to a nucleus in the shape of a letter from the violinist Ole Bull and the American author Lydia Maria Child. The subsequent purchases were made in both continents.

At the same time the secretary reported two more gifts, either of which alone would have attracted unusual attention. These were an autograph collection of Colonel Clement Biddle from Mrs. Chapman Biddle, and relics of the Morris family, from Miss Elizabeth Nixon.

*Philadelphia L. Co.* Added 3782; total 158,700; issued 36,540.

*Pittsburg, Pa.* Father Sheedy is about to open a library in his new school for the benefit of the First Ward. The library will be kept open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and on Sunday will be devoted to female readers exclusively. A large, airy room in the school has been set apart for the library, and already there is a collection of many hundred volumes.

*Rhode Island.* The 20th annual report of the Board of Education shows that there are 38 free public libraries in the State, used by 33,440 peo-

ple, containing 152,390 v. (24.7% fiction, 26% historical sciences, 12.5 science and art, 8.4 literature, 21.4 miscellaneous), circulating 305,109 v. (69.5% fiction, 14.8 hist. sci., 5.3 sci. and art, 5 literature, 5.4 miscel.) The State Board says:

"While these figures do not show as wise a selection of books, perhaps, as might have been made, and the circulation reveals quite too general a taste for fiction, still when it is considered how extensively circulating libraries are patronized, and mainly for the novels they contain, we are rather surprised that these libraries show the demand for the more solid reading that they do. A comparison with the records of public, or even private or association, libraries will show, we think, that our free libraries stand full as high, that their patrons are full as intelligent, if we may judge by what they read.

"The one thing that is lacking in the library work at the present time is skilled service in the library. In far too many instances there are good libraries doing but a mere fraction of the work they might do, simply for the want of a suitable librarian. For such a position there is needed not merely a clerk to hand out what is called for and make a record of it; but rather one who first of all shall know thoroughly what is in the library, not merely the titles of the books but the substance at least of what they contain, and then shall endeavor to learn the natures, tastes, and habits of the patrons, and lastly shall know how to meet those natures, tastes, and habits with such books as shall constantly tend to lift them up to higher planes of thought and action. The librarian of the future will take his place by the side of the teacher and professor; his work will become, has already become, a science and must be studied and learned. If we can do anything to hasten this consummation we shall give added value to the books we place in these libraries, for we shall secure thus the most perfect adaptation of the library to the community to which it ministers.

"One great trouble to-day is that there is no one really competent to decide upon the selection of the books. The first tendency is to yield to the popular clamor for stories; then we find some altogether eschewing the novel, but having no real idea of what they do want or can use to best advantage. Improvement is to be sought and urged along this line."

*St. Joseph (Mo.) P. L.* As the result of a movement now on foot it is very probable that as soon as the police department is removed from the city hall the entire west end of the second floor of that building will be remodelled and turned over to the directors of the library, to be used for library purposes. The police department now occupies five rooms, including police court room and the judge's office, and these compartments, when properly prepared, will give accommodations for library purposes for some time to come.

*St. Louis, P. L.* Feb. 22 the Building Committee of the Board of Directors of the Public Schools formally approved the plan prepared by Architect Isaac Taylor for a structure to be erected on the site of the Benton School

at Ninth and Locust Streets, for the accommodation of the officers of the school system and the Public School Library. At the January meeting of the School Directors a resolution was offered setting aside a large sum for the payment of three specified architects, who were to prepare plans for the desired building. The board amended the resolution by striking out the names of the three architects specified and inserting that of Isaac Taylor, who, by his successes of late years, seems to have justified this most complimentary preference. Mr. Taylor's instructions were to draw plans for a building which would amply accommodate the library and the School Board offices and at the same time pay a reasonable percentage from rentals of the remaining portion upon the maximum price of \$350,000.

The Public School Library building, as it will be called, will be on a lot 127 x 112. It will be six stories in height, and absolutely fire-proof. The basement and four lower stories will be constructed for store purposes to be rented to one tenant, in all probability a wholesale dry-goods house. The fifth floor is to be devoted to the School Board offices and meeting-room, and the sixth floor to the library. The grand entrance to the west end of the building on Locust Street, and its walls, floor, and ceiling will be of Italian marble. A marble staircase and three passenger elevators will furnish communications with the upper stories.

The four lower floors have separate elevators and staircases. The basement, which runs under the entire building, will be prepared to accommodate the boilers, heating and ventilating apparatus for the library, elevator machinery, and electric light plant.

On the sixth floor three passenger elevators deliver patrons of the library into a commodious lobby, from which doors lead to the delivery-room, an apartment 25 x 50 feet and 22 feet clear. Back of the delivery-desk is the stack-room. The apartment is 93 x 42 feet, and runs the entire length of the building, separated only by delivery-desk, separated from the delivery department by a glass partition, giving visitors a full view of the resources of the library.

To the right of the delivery-room is the reading-room, 84 x 46 feet, and separated from other portions of the library by an ornamented glass partition 8 feet high. East of the reading-room will be the librarian's office, the catalogue-room, an apartment for those using reference-books, 23 x 30, and toilet-rooms for both sexes.

At the west end of the reading-room is a gallery for the storage and consultation of Patent Office Reports. An intermediate story across the west end of the building, at the entrance to the lobby, provides accommodations for the janitor and a lumber-room. There is also on the library floor a room for the reception and unpacking of new books.

Mr. Fred M. Crunden, the Public School Librarian, was consulted by Mr. Taylor in the arrangement of this floor, and is pleased with the proposed accommodations.

*Salem, N. Y.* In November, 1886, Benjamin F. Bancroft, of Salem, Washington County, then

president of the First National Bank in that village, died, leaving four shares of his estate, which will amount to about \$12,000, for a public library to be called "The Bancroft-Public Library," providing a like sum could be raised for the purpose within three years. The plan of bonding the village for \$13,000 was originated and a bill to that effect was passed in the Assembly and Senate, and signed by the Governor near the close of the session a year ago. On July 2, 1889, the bill was voted upon in Salem, and it was carried by a majority of forty-two. The plans for the proposed new building have been submitted and accepted. The erection of the building will be commenced immediately.

SAUNDERS, F. K. The Astor Library. (Pages 148-159 of *New England magazine*, Apr., 1890.)

*Springfield (O.) P. L.* 18th rpt. Added 1124; total 13,742; issued 72,848 (fict. and juv. 54,379). One reason for this circulation is the access that card-holders have to the cases, where they make their own choice from the shelves.

*Worcester F. P. L.* Added 3539; total 77,208; issued 77,208. Eight delivery stations are to be established. The reading-room and reference department are hereafter to be opened on Sundays from 2 to 9 p.m. and on holidays in the forenoons also. The new building, which is to cost \$100,000, exclusive of the land, will be finished by January 1, 1891. A new registration began November 1, 1889, the cards to be good for three years from the date of issue.

#### FOREIGN NOTES.

*Antwerp* will celebrate in August the 300th anniversary of the death of the famous printer, Christopher Plantin, whose workshop, now a public museum is one of the chief attractions of the Belgian city. Simultaneously will be inaugurated the new Museum of Fine Arts and the Museum of Antiquities, and it has seemed a good time to hold a conference of all persons concerned in the art of book-making and book-publishing. The programme runs on from material considerations of form, types, pagination, indexes, illustrations, to duties on books, copyright, founding of public libraries, etc. Persons desiring an invitation to the conference should address Mr. Max Rooses, General Secretary, at the Musée-Plantin-Moretus, of which he is the learned curator. — *Nation*.

*Ashton-under-Lyne (Eng.)*. The corporation have accepted an offer of the trustees of the late Mr. George Heginbottom of £11,000 to build a Technical School and Free Library.

*Glasgow (Scotland)*. *Mitchell L.* Mr. Barrett is in the midst of his task of transferring the Mitchell Library from the old premises in Ingram Street to the new buildings in Miller Street, acquired from the Water Trust at a cost of £15,000. There will be in the new library room for 150,000 volumes and accommodations for 400 readers.

*London (Eng.)*. *Camberwell F. L.* The library was opened in temporary premises, 18 High Street, Peckham, on March 10. Mr. Henry Ogle, for-

merly of Southwark, has been appointed sub-librarian of the Camberwell Free Public Libraries.

*London (Eng.)*. *Clerkenwell F. L.* The foundation-stone of the Free Library in Skinner Street, Clerkenwell, was laid on March 8 by Mr. William Masterman, master of the Skinner's Company.

*London (Eng.)*. *People's Palace L.* The subscription for a memorial to the late Wilkie Collins, which has now closed, amounts to £307 18s. 6d.~ The committee decided that the money should be presented to the People's Palace at Mile End, to form a "Wilkie Collins Memorial Library," which will consist of novels.

*Vannes (France)*. Mauricet, A. Documents pour servir à l'histoire de la Bibliothèque de Vannes et de ses premiers bibliothécaires. Vannes, 1890. 31 p 8°.

*York (Eng.)*. *Minster L.* The late Mr. Edward Hailstone, F.S.A., of Walton Hall, near Wakefield, has bequeathed to the York Minster Library his unrivalled collection of books, manuscripts, and prints illustrating the county of York.

#### PRACTICAL NOTES.

*Duplicating Machine.* We have received from Mr. Crunden No. 1 of the Bulletin of additions of the St. Louis P. L., written by the typewriter and duplicated by Edison's "mimeograph." Mr. Crunden writes: "It is the best duplicating machine I have yet found. It is claimed that 1000 copies can be made. We have never put it to a test, but have made 75 copies without any loss of distinctness."

#### Librarians.

BLADES, W., was not a librarian, but he was an enthusiastic supporter of the Library Association, and so we may record here his death, Apr. 27, in the 65th year of his age, and express the regret that we are to have no more work from the hand of so careful and learned a bibliographer.

MRS. MARY H. MILLER, who has served as State Librarian of Iowa for two years, will be re-appointed.

TANAKA, I. Early in April, shortly after his return to Tokyo, Mr. Tanaka was appointed the librarian of the Tokyo Library and also of the Imperial University of Japan.

#### Gifts and Bequests.

THE Harlem Library is left a fund of \$3000 by Dr. William G. Wood. H. O. Coolidge has offered the city council of Keene, N. H., \$15,500 worth of real estate and \$4500 cash for a library, on condition of their paying 4% on it to his wife during her lifetime. Miss Catherine W. Bruce has added \$20,000 to her former gifts to the N. Y. Free Circulating Library. Ferdinand J. Dreer has given the Pennsylvania Historical Society his very valuable collection of some nine thou-



sand autograph letters, together with a special fund of \$30,000 for maintaining and adding to it. The conditional gift by B. F. Bancroft of \$12,000 for a public library for Salem, N. Y., has been gained by the bonding of the town to the extent of \$13,000. £11,000 has been offered to Ashton-under-Lyne, Eng., for a technical school and free library. Andrew Carnegie has turned over to the Pittsburg Library trustees \$1,000,000 for his proposed library.

### Cataloging and Classification.

AGUILAR F. L., *N. Y.* Fiction list [by L. S. Cutler.] April. N. Y., 1890. 24 p. O.

Printed on manila paper. As in Perkins's Best reading a star has been affixed to the names of some of the best authors and to the titles of some of the best works of each author. In the details of such choice opinions will of course differ, but that is no reason why a cataloger should not attempt to help her readers in this way. It is in the line of the work done by the Milwaukee P. L. in its list of 100 of the best novels and the similar lists issued by the Wilmington (N. C.) P. L. In fact the trend of library thought now is toward the preparation of *select* catalogs.

BALLINGER, John. Making of catalogues. *New York Herald*, March 30, 1890.

The BOSTON P. L.'s quarterly bulletin for April, 1890, being no. 1 of v. 9, abandons the dictionary form of catalog for the alphabetic-classed form. There are 80 classes (arranged alphabetically), under which about 300 sub-classes are alphabetically arranged. A scheme of the classification is prefixed.

An author-index and a subject-index follow; the no. also contains a note on the European origin of the Aryans (4½ pp.), Mr. Whitney's Catalogue of the bibliographies of special subjects, and a note on the Barlow sale (2½ p.). A different type is used (modern faced in place of old faced) and a conspicuous display type for headings.

The HARVARD UNIVERSITY bulletin for May contains (pp. 95-104) a Bibliography of Beaumont and Fletcher by Alfred Claghorn Potter.

NOTTINGHAM (*Eng.*) F. P. Ls List of books in the reference libraries. No. 14: Nottinghamshire collections. Not., March 1890. 95 p. O.

Among the collections are: Poll books, Directories and Annuals, Robin Hood collection, Corporation reports, Byron collection, Kirke White collection.

OSTERHOUT FREE LIBRARY. Class catalogue and author index. Wilkes-Barre, Pa., 1889. 834+16 p. O.

An admirable list, classed in 9 divisions, with author and subject index, and made very clear and convenient for quick reference, by the use of heavy face type for the class headings.

SACHAU, E.; and ETHE, Hermann. Catalogue of the Persian, Turkish, Hindustani, and Pushtu mss. in the Bodleian Library. Pt. 1, The Persian mss. Oxford, Clarendon press, 1890.

"Of the achievements of scholarship a good catalogue and a good dictionary are perhaps the highest." — *Acad.*, 26 Ap., '90.

ST. LOUIS P. L. Bulletin of additions. No. 1, March (1890). F<sup>3</sup>. Price 5c.

Type-written and duplicated by the "mimeograph."

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LIBRARY. Contents-index. Vol. 1. Berkeley, 1889-90. 2 l.+519 p. O.

The librarian, Mr. Joseph C. Rowell, says in the preface: "This is a result of the endeavor to utilize all the resources of a comparatively small but valuable library of reference. Two working tools of the collection are the short-title analytical author catalogue and the full-title classified subject catalogue. Early in our experience, however, it became evident that the cataloguing ordinarily done was insufficient to meet the demands of university study, and the practice of indexing books and magazines immediately upon their receipt was begun.

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"Generally, nothing less in extent than a ten octavo page article has been entered in the index. For the second volume sufficient material will have accumulated when an additional 40,000 or 50,000 volumes have accrued."

### CHANGED TITLES.

*My own story*, by Joaquin Miller, Chicago, Belford, Clarke Co., 1890, 12°, just publ., is same as "Unwritten history; life among the Modocs," Am. Publ. Co., Hartford, 1874, 8°; same illustrations, but with paper covers, and price at 50c. — W. A. BARDWELL.

### FULL NAMES.

Locke, J. Lymburner (History of Camden, Me.). — J. Williamson.

Maurice, Col. J. F. (The balance of military power in Europe. Edin., 1888).

*Supplied by Harvard University Library.*

Clarke, Joseph Ignatius Constantine (Robert Emmet: a tragedy of Irish history);

De Velling, C. Theodore (History of the 17th regiment);



Grant, Roland Dwight (Testimony before the legislative committee on towns [relating to the division of Beverly]);

Greene, Harris Ray (Inductive language lessons);

Pratt, C. Eadward (The American bicyclist);

Varney, George Jones (A gazetteer of the state of Massachusetts. By Elias Nason. Revised by G. J. Varney);

Waite, H. E. (Extracts relating to the origin of the American navy).

### Bibliography.

CATALOGUE des anciennes traductions arméniennes, siècles 4 - 13. Venezia, tip. dei Mechitaristi, 1889. 31 + 33 p. 8°.

DU RIEU, W. N. Essai bibliographique concernant tout ce qui a paru dans les Pays Bas au sujet et en faveur des Vaudois. La Hague, Nijhoff, 1889.

"Contains in 123 titles the works on this subject which have appeared in the Low Countries, 1616 - 1888, magazine articles being excluded. The 17th century, to which the majority of the entries belong, is, of course, not that of special interest to the students of Vaudois literature and dogma. It is the period of forgery and Lutheran inoculation. Still, this bibliography will be of real value to those who seek to disentangle the primitive current of Waldensian heresy from Hussite and Lutheran influence. The Leyden librarian in his preface tells us that he has not been able to realize the bibliographic ideal of seeing all the works whose titles he gives. We would the more readily pardon him this defect if he had distinctly marked those books he has actually had in his hands and those he has not, and if he had told us the libraries in which those he has seen may be found. He writes:

"Sans doute, la plupart des écrits mentionnés dans notre liste se trouvent, soit à la Bibliothèque wallonne, soit dans d'autres bibliothèques de ce pays; cependant plusieurs des titres que nous donnons ne nous sont parvenus que de seconde main."

"How hopeless is this for the scholar who wants with the least expenditure of energy to consult a given work! Surely we might have expected a librarian to have been more conversant with the fundamentals of bibliography."

FISKE, W. Books printed in Iceland, 1578 - 1844: a 3d supplement to the British Museum catalogue. Florence, Le Monnier press, 1890. 29 p. O. (Bibliographical notices, 5.)

LADIES' COMMISSION ON SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOOKS. Annual list of books recommended. Boston, Amer. Unitarian Association, 1890. 15 p. D.

The Commission this year examined 247 books and approved 65. In a final note they depart

from their usual course so far as to give their judgment of those of G. A. Henty's books which they have rejected as well as of those put on to their list.

MAIGNIEN, Ed. Bibliographie des écrits relatifs à Mandrin. Grenoble, 1890. 31 p. 8°.

VERZICHNIS der im J. 1889 erschienenen Musikalien, auch musikal. Schriften u. Abbildungen, m. Anzeige d. Verleger u. Preise; in alphab. Ordng. nebst systemat. geordneter Uebersicht. 38. Jahrg. od. 6. Reihe 4. Jahrg. Lpz., Hofmeister, 1890. 6 + 117 + 411 p. O. .15 m.

### INDEXES.

GRISWOLD, W. M. Autoren- und Sachregister zu den bedeutendsten deutschen Zeitschriften, 1886 - 89 und zu verschiedenen Sammlungen. Camb., 1890. 4 + 10 + 3 to 48 p. Q.

PIOLLET, A. Table méthodique et alphabétique des matières contenues dans les mémoires, bulletins et autres documents publiés par l'ACADÉMIE DELPHINALE, 1787 - 1886. Grenoble, 1890. 21 + 144 p. 8°.

Register op de 40 eerste jaargangen van het tijdschrift NEDERLAND (1849 - 88); bewerkt door den uitgever. Bussum, 1890. 76 p. 8°.

SERMAINE religieuse du diocèse de Grenoble; Table analytique et alphabétique des matières des 20 premières années, 1878 - 88. Grenoble, 1890. 76 p. 8°.

Le TALMUD de Jérusalem, tr. par Meise Schwab de la Bibliothèque Nationale: introduction et tables générales. Paris, J. Maisonneuve, 1890. 172 p. I. O.

### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

Gerard, [see v. 14, p. 432.] The facts in *re* E. D. Gerard (*not* Gérard, as many catalogers write it) seem to be as follows: The novels mentioned by Mr. Savary were all published under this name, which, the Boston *Literary world*, 11: 172, says, "is said to be the pseudonym of two ladies, descendants of Prof. [Alex.] Gerard of Aberdeen. The elder of the two is the wife of a Col. Laszowski [Laszowski] of the Uhlan service in the Austrian army." Subsequent publications of these ladies separately make the truth of this assertion evident. The "Land beyond the forest" is by E. Gerard (*not* E. D.), *i. e.*, Emily de Laszowska, *born* Gerard, which explains the signature appended to the preface. "Orthodox," a tale published in 1888, is by the other sister, or whatever other relation she may be, Dorothea Gerard, alone, who calls herself on the title-page "Joint author of Reata." It is,

therefore, clear that all that is necessary, in order to transfer "E. D. Gerard" from a pseudonym to a real author name, is to insert an *and* between E. and D.

*The new Godiva*, studies in social questions, London, 1885, S., is by E. Rachel Chapman.  
— *Whittaker*. Ref. cat., Catal. of T. Fisher Unwin, p. 7.

*Meta Lander*, ps. of Margaret Woods Lawrence in "Marion Graham," a religious novel, Boston, Lee & Shepard. The author is a member of a famous orthodox family; her father was Rev. Dr. Leonard Woods, of Andover, and her brother is ex-President of Bowdoin College. She is the widow of Rev. Dr. Lawrence, another theological professor. While a believer in the Christian religion and illustrating its power over selfish interests, she has no sympathy with the rigid Calvinistic theology, and expresses her ideas in regard to it in a manner which is likely to create a sensation in denominational circles. — *Critic*.

*Mark Rutherford*. The author of this and of "The revolution in Tanner's Lane" is, says the *Pall Mall Budget*, Mr. W. Hale White, a native of Bedford, England. He graduated in 1850 at New College, Edinburgh, and until recently held a prominent position in the Admiralty.

*Un mariage manqué*, conte archéologique, par A. B., Dijon, Damidot, is by Auguste Bougot of Dijon. — *Revue bleue*, 29 mars, p. 407.

Miss M. S. Cutler supplies the following additions to Mr. Cushing's "Initials" and "Anonyms and pseudonyms":

*Flemish interiors* is by Mrs. W. Pitt Byrne.  
— *Men of the time*, 11th ed.

*Boston merchant*, ps. of Amos W. Stetson, in "Our national debt and currency, 1864."  
— Author's autograph on t.-p. in C. C. Book entered under Stetson in Bost. Ath. and in B. P. L.

*Cordial friend to the Protestant religion*, ps. of Dan Whitby, in "Discourse concerning the laws . . . against heretics."  
— *Halkett & Laing*, under Discourse. This pseud. used on t.-p. of book itself, and author traced by Laing.

D\*\*\*\*, ps. of François Amédée Doppet.  
— *A. E. Hutchins*, Je. 87.

*Dr. Hans Zurmühler, der Dulkener Fiedler*. Also, *H. Z.*, ps. of P. Norrenberg.  
— *P. A. [J. F.] Child*, postal to Miss Hutchins.

*Edwardus Didoclavius*, ps. of D. Calderwood.  
— *Ferme, C.* Logical analysis of Romans, pref., page 13.

*F. Albrecht Niemann*, ps. of J. F. Kruger.  
— *Heinsius*, Allg. Bücher-Lexicon, v. 8, pt. 2, p. 453.

*A. W. Farmer*, ps. of Rev. I. Wilkins.  
— *Drake*, *Cushing*, ser. 1, pt. 2, *Halkett & Laing*, v. 4.

*Federalist*, ps. of W. McKean, in answer to Carey's Olive branch.  
— *Copyright of book*.

*Annie Geiger*, ps. of Maria Bogor.  
— *Hays*, Women of the day.

*Hodge Turbervil*, ps. of Edm. Gayton, in Walk. knaves, walk. L., 1659.  
— *Advocates' Library Catalog*.

*Ignatius Loyola Robinson*, ps. of S. Lorenzo Knapp.

— *Drake*, Dict. of Amer. biog. *Cushing*, ser. 1, pt. 2.

*J. R. Tardieu*, ps. of J. D. de Saint-Germaine, in Money, a tale.  
— *Worcester Free Library Catalog*, 1884.

*Jet*, ps. of J. E. Tuel, in Putnam portraits, 1855; Publishers' festival, 1855.

— *Harris*, Col. Amer. poetry, p. 290. *Cushing*, ser. 1, gives T., J. E., St. Clair; or, The protégé. W., 1846.

*Leges*, ps. of Warren T. Worden, in "Contract of endorsement."

— *Autograph letter of author pasted in book in Columbia College library*.

*Mirza-Schaffy*, ps. of F. Martin Bodenstedt.

— *Book itself*, in Columbia College library.

*One of the people*, ps. of G. M'Duffie, in Defence of a liberal construction of the powers of Congress. 1832.

— *Book itself*, in Columbia College.

*Rob Roy*, ps. of J. MacGregor.

— *Men of the time*, 11th ed. *Cushing*, ser. 1, pt. 2.

*Rutledge*, ps. of Mrs. Sydney S. Harris, or Mrs. Miriam (Coles).

*Selah*, ps. of Abner Clarence Griswold.

— *Boston Athenaeum Catalogue*.

*Theodore de la Guard*, ps. of Nathaniel Ward.

— *Drake*, Dict. of Amer. biog. *Halkett & Laing*, v. 4, under Guard.

*Union man in church and state*, ps. of W. A. Muhlenberg, in Olive branch. 4 pages.

— *Ayers*, Anne, Life of Muhlenberg.

*Wm. Perry Brown*, ps. of — Murfree, a brother of C. Egbert Craddock.

— *Advance*, 30 Je., 87: 407.

*New England and Her Institutions*: by one of her Sons. London, 1835.

This book is not by Jacob Abbott.

Inserted in a copy of the American edition of the same in my possession, Boston, John Allen & Co., 1835, is a note in the handwriting of my father, Jacob Abbott, as follows:

"This volume was written chiefly by J. S. C. A. [John S. C. Abbott] and sent out to England to be published by L. B. Seeley, with the intention of publishing it simultaneously in this country. It was afterward concluded to make it Vol. II. of the Pop. lib. [Popular Library]. It was thoroughly revised and somewhat altered by J. A. [Jacob Abbott] and Prof. A. [P. E. A. Andrews.] Chap. VI. was originally a letter from G. D. A. [Rev. Gorham D. Abbott]. Chaps. IX. and X. were by J. A. [Jacob Abbott]. Chaps. IX., X., XI., and XII. were added to make the American edition large enough for the Pop. lib."

A comparison of the American and English editions show considerable differences.

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